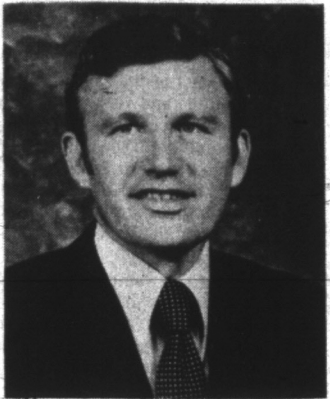


WMU Annual Sessions Feature John Claypool

KANSAS CITY, Mo. (BP) — Emphasizing the Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) bold mission objective to evangelize the world by the close of the century, the Southern Baptist Woman's Missionary Union (WMU), meeting here June 12-13, will feature



Claypool

representatives from all levels of the denomination's missions enterprise.

The WMU annual meeting includes foreign missionaries, international speakers, representatives from Baptist agencies and churches, and personnel involved in associational, state and national missions efforts in the United States. The theme is "World Listen! Let All Who Have Ears Listen."

A Bold Mission Rally, at 3 p.m., Sunday, June 12, will launch the two-day meeting. It will feature a special drama involving dramatic narrations by triplet ministers of music and youth, Gerald, Darrell and Harold

Ware of the First Baptist Churches of Pauls Valley, Atoka and Weoka, Okla., respectively; actors from William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.; missionary and international speakers; and music by "Jubilant," a group of students from Grand Canyon College, Phoenix, Ariz.

The rally, planned jointly by the SBC Home and Foreign Mission Boards and WMU, will be followed by an "Hour of Prayer for Bold Missions," including 38 separate prayer groups led by state WMU presidents and home and foreign missionaries.

National WMU President Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory of Danville, Va., has issued a special invitation to pastors and WMU leaders within easy driving distance in a six-state area surrounding Kansas City to bring special groups to the rally.

Three Monday sessions, set for 9:30 a.m., 2:00 p.m., and 7:30 p.m., cover all aspects of SBC missions.

John Claypool, pastor of Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss., and William G. Tanner, executive director of the SBC Home Mission Board, will deliver major addresses at the Monday evening closing session.

Other program highlights on Monday include a special feature Monday afternoon, entitled "Big City, Listen!"; addresses throughout the day by Mike Mojica, home missionary, Laredo, Tex.; Robert Tremaine, home missionary, Miami, Fla.; Carlos Owens, foreign missionary, Moshi, Tanzania; and three meditations by Josephine Pile of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, from her new book for WMU, "Listening Women I

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Conference Of Directors Of Missions To Meet In Kosciusko May 13 And 14

The Mississippi Conference of Directors of Missions will hold their spring meeting in Kosciusko on May 13-14. The meeting will begin with a banquet on Friday night featuring music by Richard Smith of New Albany and a message by L. Gordon Sansing of Meridian. The Saturday program will consist of a presentation on the development of Central Hills Baptist Retreat, and a tour of the retreat property.

Most of the 46 Directors of Missions in Mississippi, their wives, and several special guests are expected to attend the meeting. W. Levon Moore, director of missions for Attala Association, is the president of the Mississippi Conference of Directors of Missions.

Baptist Children's Village Restructures Administration

A complete change in the structure of the administration of The Baptist Children's Village, Mississippi Baptists' child care agency, has been announced by W. Kelly Pyron of Natchez, president of The Village's board of trustees.

The announced changes include promotions and appointments to what Pyron calls "key" administrative responsibilities, reassignment of certain administrative personnel, major re-drafting of job descriptions, and abandonment of the title "Superintendent" as designation for the principal administrative and executive officer.

Henry M. Glaze of Jackson has been named home life director of the Jackson campus of The Baptist Children's Village and David "Cotton" Foster has been re-appointed as home life director of the Farrow Manor Campus in Tate County, each with new and refined job descriptions.

Home life directors are charged with immediate administrative supervision of the daily life and routine of Village campus life, with particular and primary responsibility as the "supervisor of and spokesman for cottage life."

Glaze, who has been a member of the Jackson staff for three years, is a graduate of Mississippi College and is currently working on the master of business administration degree from that school. Mrs. Glaze has been a member of The Village's staff as assistant director of the department of music since 1973.

Foster, who made his home at The Village since the age of 12, until the conclusion of his college studies, has served as home life director for the Farrow Manor Campus since its opening in 1975. He previously served as director of activities for the Jackson Campus. He is a graduate of Clinton High School and has studied at Northwest Junior College in Senatobia where he was BSU president and student body president, and he has studied at Mississippi College. Mrs. Foster is also a member of the Farrow Manor Campus staff.

Additional reassignments announced by Pyron include: appointment of T. Deane Rodgers of Jackson as assistant executive director, and the reappointment of Karl K. McGraw and Mrs. Peggy S. Taylor as administrative assistants to the executive director, each with additional responsibility and authority.

McGraw, a village staffer since 1961, and a former staffer with Kentucky Baptists' child care system, is a graduate of Mississippi College. His new assignment charges him with responsibility for all Village property. Mrs. Taylor, a Leland native, educated at Delta State University, Mississippi College, and Mississippi University for Women, first joined The Village staff as a social caseworker in 1962. A former director of the depart-



Top Village administration includes (left to right): Karl K. McGraw, administrative assistant for property; T. Deane Rodgers, assistant executive director; Mrs. Peggy S. Taylor, administrative assistant for personnel; W. Kelly Pyron, president, board of trustees; Paul N. Nunnery, executive director; Henry M. Glaze, home life director, Jackson Campus; and David "Cotton" Foster, home life director, Farrow Manor Campus.

ment of social service, her expanded responsibilities includes personnel administration.

Rodgers, a Mississippi native, is a graduate of North Texas State University, and joined The Village staff in 1970 as home life director. In his new capacity as assistant executive director, he will concentrate on educational arrangements for village children,

development, and public relations duties.

Paul N. Nunnery, who has served as superintendent of the child care agency since 1960, has been designated the first executive director of The Baptist Children's Village with primary authority and responsibility for all Village operations and interests subject to the direction of the board of trustees.

From Polio To Pagliacci

By Jon Pedersen

NEW ORLEANS (BP) — On a balmy West Tennessee Sunday morning, young Clint Nichols stepped from the back door of his parent's farm house and headed for the barn to feed the family cows and chickens. Clint began to run toward the old barn.

Suddenly, he couldn't put one foot in front of the other fast enough, and with a sickening lurch he felt himself falling to the dusty ground. The feed bucket clanged and rolled in the dust near his head.

He hobbled back to the house and told his parents he could hardly walk. His father, Stanley Nichols, picked the boy up and carried him to his bedroom.

Clint could not feel anything but pain from his waist down. He then recalled having had "shooting" pains for some time — first on one side and the other. Now the throbbing pains met somewhere in his lower back.

Examinations at first indicated flu in his back, but then the reports confirmed that Clinton C. Nichols, age 12, had polio.

"At first I was disappointed, recalls Nichols, now chairman of the church music ministries division of the New Orleans Baptist Theological Seminary, because I could no longer be involved in football, basketball and the other sports which I had enjoyed so much.

But Nichols had another love and talent — music — which he pursued with zest.

"I guess I always had a flair for singing. I recall my oldest brother Ray and I would sit in the back seat of the car and just sing and sing. They didn't really have a lot of cars with radios in them in those days, so we'd sing all the songs we knew as we'd ride down the road.

"In church I always seemed to have trouble, singing too loud. Ray would punch me a lot of times to tell me to quiet down," the music professor said.

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The Sullivan Year Six Reporters Once Were Lined Up For Interviews

By James Lee Young

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist Convention (SBC) President James L. Sullivan says he could not have predicted the work and pressure that suddenly confronted him with his election in a Bicentennial year, when Southern Baptist layman Jimmy Carter ran for and won the U. S. presidency.

Sullivan, 67, has declined to be named for a traditional second term as SBC president. By his own admission, he is a hard-driving individual who was booked heavily even before assuming the highly visible and oft-quoted post of SBC president.

Actually, the SBC constitution bylaws give the convention president plenty to do as a member of the various agency boards, convention committees, and certain appointive powers throughout the year. Sullivan, as SBC president, is automatically a member of the SBC Executive Committee, and presides over the SBC annual sessions.

In recent years, however, the convention president has become also a roving public relations person, with his time taken up in speaking, writing, attending key meetings, and granting interviews.

Sullivan, also in the middle of a

five-year term as vice president of the Baptist World Alliance, served over 20 years as president of the SBC Sunday School Board in Nashville, retiring from the board at the end of 1975.

His bearing, energy, capabilities and overall grasp of Southern Baptists made him a natural to become convention president in Norfolk, Va., in June, 1976. He has been repeatedly praised in print and verbally for his role as SBC president.

His time has been eaten by more than 130 speaking engagements with only one week free since Labor Day, 1976, writing assignments, some 100 letters to write a week, plus multi-lined news interviews for newspapers, magazines, radio and television.

He doesn't complain, but recently told Baptist Press that the "ceaseless air travel, constant physical and emotional strains, and absences from home" convinced him that one term was "best for me and for the convention."

Sullivan has been hailed by some as "Southern Baptists' man of the hour," at a time when the denomination has enjoyed unparalleled international media attention, the result of an SBC appearance in Norfolk by President Gerald Ford and the campaign and election of President Carter.

When the Plains Baptist Church controversy broke over whether to admit a black minister as a member, Sullivan, that same day, reaffirmed to the media the Baptist tradition of local church autonomy and at the same time declared himself firmly in favor of racial openness in Southern Baptist and all Christian churches.

During the crisis in Carter's home church in Plains, Ga., generated two days before the 1976 national elections, Sullivan spent hours at a time on the telephone answering questions on Southern Baptists, Baptist polity, race, and related issues.

At one time, he recalled, six reporters were lined up, holding for telephone interviews. One morning, phone calls interrupted his breakfast five times. Reporters still call on WATS lines and talk at length. With few exceptions, Sullivan told Baptist Press, the media has been fair and accurate.

Even now, wherever he goes, local pastors, missionaries and other hosts know in advance they have a newsworthy, quotable and responsive source in Sullivan. Often, a reporter will be waiting in the car that takes him to his hotel, a home, or to where he will speak.

Although Sullivan has consciously tried to slow his pace, he is awake by 5:30 a.m. each day and well into his activities by the time most people are stirring. This time of day, he finds—after years of doing so—is the best time for daily devotions.

His travels into more than 18 states the past year—to Bicentennial celebrations and speaking engagements for local, state, national and international gatherings—have given him a fresher,

updated perspective on Southern Baptists.

In his travels, Sullivan said, he has found the vast majority of Southern Baptists are "content and pleased" with what the denomination is doing through its state conventions and national agencies.

Looking toward the Southern Baptist Convention annual meeting in Kansas City, Mo., June 14-16, 1977, Sullivan said he believes a major issue could be the desire of 35 Canadian Baptist churches and missions, who consider themselves Southern Baptists, to receive more assistance from the national agencies of the denomination.

The Canadian churches and missions in four western Canadian provinces are affiliated with the Northwest Baptist Convention (Oregon and Washington) but aren't eligible to affiliate with the SBC. Last year in Norfolk, the SBC assigned the denomination's Foreign Mission Board to study the matter.

The board will recommend in June that "all appropriate SBC agencies" be encouraged to extend a helping hand to the Canadian Baptists, in keeping with the agencies' program statements and with appropriate consultation between agencies. Also, it will recommend that no worker whose salary is paid by any SBC agency is to encourage existing Baptist churches in Canada to affiliate with Southern Baptist work to avoid proselytizing of churches.

Discussing another potential Kansas City issue, Sullivan said he has "no objection to full release of all votes" taken at the SBC. Under convention procedure in the SBC Constitution and Bylaws, the tabulation of the vote is "announced and recorded only on the request of a majority of the messengers voting."

The SBC Executive Committee has recommended that all votes be released on issues but they not be released on officers unless a majority of the body asks for it. Sullivan said, however, "I think Baptists have a right to any information they wish concerning their own operation."

On the so-called debate between "conservatives" and "liberals" in the denomination, Sullivan cautioned against identifying anyone as a liberal, "unless we recognize that it depends on what subject you're talking about." He called such debate, however, "potentially healthy" for the denomination.

"It's the cross fertilization of ideas and testing of facts that enables 80 percent of the people we refer to as the 'silent middle' to make up their minds



In photo, James Sullivan promotes his book ROPE OF SAND, STRENGTH OF STEEL, which is about Southern Baptists and their voluntary cooperation.

as to what is right. . . It's best that discussion be underway rather than explode without knowledge. You can't always interpret what's happening when emotions reach a certain pitch."

Addressing some other issues, Sullivan said he could not get as excited as some about the "latest wave" of the charismatic movement: "it comes and it goes away," he said; noting also that this is the third such movement he has seen in his lifetime.

On Bold Mission strategy—Southern Baptists' efforts to evangelize the world by 2000 he said the goals and ideas are idealistic and perhaps un-reachable, "but this isn't bad. . . we should always reach beyond ourselves, to enable us to reach further than we would otherwise."

He cautioned that the use of too many terms or themes for the various segments of the Bold Mission strategy might confuse people trying to understand what the denomination is doing in terms of mission strategy.

He predicted that for the near future not many women will become pastors of Southern Baptist churches but that many could and likely will become professors and instructors in Baptist seminaries and colleges, institutional chaplains and church staff members.

"I think, traditionally, people are

(Continued on page 3)

Church Debt Tops \$1 Billion Mark

ATLANTA (BP) — Southern Baptist church debt passed the \$1 billion mark for the first time in history, directors of the denomination's Home Mission Board were told here.

"It's taking more and more to do less and less," said Robert Kilgore, director of the board's division of church loans. "Passing the \$1 billion mark is a milestone for us," he added. "I don't know if that's good or bad."

According to figures, Kilgore distributed during the monthly meeting of the board's executive committee, 16,563 churches, which reported church debt, reflected an aggregate debt of \$1,025,762,663 during 1976, an average of \$61,931. The denomination has a total of 35,073 churches, according to 1976 statistics.

Comparisons indicate that more reporting churches — 16,995 — had less debt in 1972. Then, total church debt was \$871,757,011, an average of \$51,295. The denomination had 34,534 churches in 1972.

The figures were prepared by the department of research services of the Baptist Sunday School Board from information contained in the uniform church letters submitted by affiliated churches each October.

Total receipts increased, Kilgore said, in 1972. The 33,125 churches reporting had receipts of \$1,645,959,837.

Kilgore, whose division deals with mission churches as well as constituted bodies, noted some concern over comparative figures on mission churches. In 1972, he said, some 1,237 churches spent \$4,353,290, to support their missions. By 1976, 750 churches

reported spending \$4,783,321 for the mission support.

"This appears to be a trend. Fewer and fewer churches sponsor missions, but the cost for the sponsoring church continues to rise," he said.

Fire Cripples Hospital

JIBLA, Yemen (BP) — Fire struck the Jibla Baptist Hospital here but no injuries were reported, according to Southern Baptist missionary Dr. James M. Young Jr., hospital administrator.

However, Young said the fire severely crippled the 70-bed hospital's operations.

The fire, which Young said probably began with a faulty water heater, completely destroyed a 4,000 square-foot building containing the hospital generators, storeroom, laundry, employees' restrooms and bath and the morgue.

All drug supplies, four generators and all hospital linens, except those on the beds, were destroyed as well as spare parts for all hospital equipment, the water heater, the electrical distribution center, the telephone (intercom) system, two commercial washing machines, a commercial sewing machine and all shelving.

Peggy Hicks of Greenwood, Miss., is a missionary journeyman assigned to the hospital.



Clint Nichols portrays Oedipus Rex from the play of the same name. Nichols was lead tenor for the New York City Opera before becoming director of the church music ministries division at New Orleans Seminary. Also he was formerly on the faculty at USM. He and his wife, Jarvis Rose, sang during the 1977 Mississippi Baptist Evangelism Conference. (Major Photo Service, Inc.)

Camp Safety Act Does Not Deny Freedom, Says Wood

By Carol Franklin

WASHINGTON (BP) — Youth Camp Safety bills currently before Congress would not interfere with religious freedom, according to testimony by a Baptist executive before the Subcommittee on Compensation, Health and Safety of the House Committee on Education and Labor here.

Rosemary Brevard, assistant to the director of research services of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, presented testimony for James E. Wood Jr., executive director.

The Baptist Joint Committee, supported by nine national Baptist bodies in the U. S. and Canada, including the Southern Baptist Convention, took no position for or against the proposed Youth Camp Safety Act. It addressed only the question of separation of church and state and religious freedom.

Representatives of Christian Camping International, including a Baptist encampment manager, opposed the legislation before the subcommittee.

Wood's testimony said that the bill under consideration "does not reveal a legislative intent either to prescribe religious beliefs or to limit religious practices. The 'noninterference' provisions . . . of the bill are apparently intended to make sure that there will be no statutory or administrative limitations on religious practices at those camps covered by the bill," he said.

According to Wood, however, the guarantees of noninterference in the bill need strengthening. He suggested substitute wording which members of the subcommittee said they found acceptable, even better than the original language.

The proposed substitute wording states that nothing in the bill or any regulations issued to carry out the bill may control the religious activities or affiliation of camps in any way. Wood also stated that he agreed with the Supreme Court that government may limit some religious practices if the health, safety, welfare and morals of the people generally are clearly endangered.

Edward Oulund, executive director, and Larry Haslam, president-elect, spoke for Christian Camping International (CCI). Haslam manages Glorieta (N. M.) Baptist Conference Center, which is owned and operated by the Sunday School Board of the Southern Baptist Convention.

They objected to the proposed Youth Camp Safety legislation on three counts: (1) The Christian camps are already generally safe, (2) Federal regulations will encroach on Christian camping, and (3) Camp safety programs should be state regulated.

U. S. Rep. Ronald A. Sarasin (R-Conn.) asked if regulations in Michigan and other states interfered with religious activities in camping. Oulund said he did not object to state regulations, only federal. He felt that it would be easier to influence state officials than federal authorities in Washington.

U. S. Rep. Joseph M. Gaydos (D-Pa.), chairman of the subcommittee, pointed out that the bills provide for

administration of all regulations at the state level.

U. S. Rep. E. G. Shuster (R-Pa.) noted that regulations may go beyond the intent of Congress and asked if CCI's concern was with the intent of the legislation or the fear of regulations going beyond the intent. Haslam conceded that the intent of the bills does not infringe on religious freedom.

Members of the subcommittee also challenged Oulund's suggestion that the federal government "consider helping camping associations with federal grants to become responsible agents for camp safety through an intensive certification program."

Gaydos noted that such a request from a witness who objected to federal involvement in camping was somewhat inconsistent and would most certainly be a violation of separation of church and state.

Also presenting favorable testimony were representatives of Girl Scouts of U. S. A. and National Parent-Teacher Association.

Newsbriefs In The World Of Religion



Washington (BP) — The U. S. Supreme Court ruled here that states may not require citizens to display slogans on their automobile license plates when they conflict with religious beliefs. The high court's decision was specifically directed at the state of New Hampshire, where privately owned autos must display the state motto, "Live Free or Die." George and Maxine Maynard, practicing Jehovah's Witnesses, had argued earlier that the slogan was contrary to their beliefs. In testimony before a lower court, George Maynard had explained that "My 'government' — Jehovah's Kingdom — offers everlasting life. It would be contrary to that belief to give up my life for the state, even if it meant living in bondage."

Washington (BP) — An equally divided U. S. Supreme Court ruled here that public school systems may continue to operate sex-segregated high schools without violating federal anti-discrimination laws.

BRISTOL, Eng. (RNS) — There is overwhelming prejudice against women holding responsible positions in Baptist churches and in the denomination, according to reports presented at a conference at Bristol Baptist College on "Women and Men: Equal in Church?" The reports gave a random sample of a number of churches which showed that each church had twice as many women members as men but twice as many male deacons as female deacons. They also pointed out that in its 153-year history the Baptist Union of Great Britain and Ireland had never had a woman president, and its central body, the Council, now has only 20 women among its membership of more than 200.

Provo (RNS) — Brigham Young University here has announced that because of its policy against Sunday sports, its football team will be unable to consider playing in the Fiesta Bowl, scheduled Sunday, Dec. 25, this year.

Zurich, Switzerland (RNS) — Six Romanian evangelicals, including three ministers, have been arrested for signing a document calling for respect for the human rights of Christian believers in Romania, according to a human rights group here.

Plains Ga. (BP) — Several members of Plains Baptist Church began laying plans here for the possible formation of a new Southern Baptist church in the town, after the congregation declined, 87-51, to reinstate its pastor, Bruce Edwards, who resigned under pressure on Feb. 17. Attendance, receipts and general participation in all programs of the Plains Church have dropped drastically, according to reports, since Edwards' resignation was called for in the Feb. meeting.

Cumberland College Students Aid Ky., Tenn. Flood Victims

WILLIAMSBURG, Ky. (BP) — Students and officials of Cumberland College, a Baptist school here, responded with other community members as Cumberland River flood waters rolled over homes and businesses in this area.

As news spread that the Cumberland River would flood homes and businesses in Whitley County, Ron Griffin, student activities director at the college, set up a relief center in the Boswell Campus Center.

He raised a volunteer army, which finally consisted of 60 Cumberland College students, three pickup trucks and two vans.

"It wasn't something we were asked to do," said Griffin. "We just felt that we could and should help."

Working in crews of six, student volunteers—many were members of Cumberland's Baptist Student Union—helped in evacuating homes in Williamsburg and as far away as Jellico, Tenn.

"When we offered to help the flood victims they were both thrilled and appreciative," said Pete Murphy, a sophomore from Louisville. "I wouldn't trade this experience for anything. I saw this as an opportunity to witness for Christ."

Baptist History Has Modern Implications

NASHVILLE (BP) — The Southern Baptist Historical Commission and its auxiliary Historical Society spent two days here conducting business and examining techniques and implications of "Communicating Baptist History Through Contemporary Media and Art Forms."

The Historical Commission re-elected Richard D. Patton, pastor of First Baptist Church, Portland, Tenn., as chairman; approved a 1977-78 budget of \$246,950, which includes \$17,000 from the commission's program reserve funds; and proposed a 1978-79 budget of \$282,750.

The 1977-78 budget represents a

SBTS Renews Nigerian Ties

LOUISVILLE (BP) — The 61-member board of trustees of The Southern Baptist Theological Seminary, meeting in annual session here, honored President and Mrs. Duke K. McCall on the 25th anniversary of his inauguration, renewed long-standing ties with the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary, elected seven faculty members, filled three endowed professorships, and considered future constraints on the spiraling enrollment of the denomination's oldest institution.

At the request of the Nigerian Baptist Convention and its seminary at Ogbomoso, the trustees agreed to revise and reactivate a special relationship in which Southern Seminary will once again grant degrees to students who complete specific academic programs offered by the Nigerian Baptist Theological Seminary.

The agreement would be governed by standards of the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools, which is Southern Seminary's accrediting agency. The degree-granting relationship began in 1948, but was discontinued 10 years ago.

The board tabled for further study a proposal on future enrollment constraints, noting that the explosive growth of Southern Seminary in recent years had strained the seminary's resources and could threaten its ability to maintain high quality programs.

Trustees acknowledged that continued excellence is dependent on the success of the seminary's \$10 million endowment campaign, which will be launched in Louisville this spring, then move to the national level in late 1977.

The fund-raising drive is the seminary's first such comprehensive effort since 1925, when the denomination's Cooperative Program began.

In other action, the trustees: Increased student matriculation fees to \$150 per semester and \$40 per J-Term (one month terms in January, June and July), effective August 1, 1977, as part of a joint move by all six seminaries of the Southern Baptist Convention.

For Murphy and the more than 200 volunteers who worked in flood relief before the emergency passed, their efforts removed some barriers which often seem to exist between colleges and towns. "Because we reached out," Murphy said, "the townspeople have a closer tie with the campus community. Volunteer Berry Alton, a freshman, worked 22 hours straight on his first shift.

One of many problems faced by the student volunteers was that many residents refused to believe that their homes could actually go under water. "A great many people would wait until the last minute before they would leave their homes," Murphy said.

Cumberland College opened its facilities and resources to flood victims while students manned four telephone hot-lines. A CB radio base was set up in the campus center, and a communication relay system was maintained with the rescue squad and fire departments.

Since flood waters did not reach the college campus—located on a hill above Williamsburg—the school was able to extend its services further than if its facilities had been endangered, Griffin noted.

Israelis Dedicate Church Building

GALILEE, Israel — Several hundred church members, village dignitaries and Christians from throughout the country participated in the dedication of a new building for the Baptist church in this Christian-Druze village of Rama, high in the hills of Galilee.

The chairman of the local council, Hanna Muweis, thanked Baptists, particularly Southern Baptist representative Ray G. Register Jr., pastor, for establishing a church in the village. He expressed hope that the new place would "enrich the Spirit of God in the Rama people."

And, he pointed out that the church started a kindergarten several years ago, evidence that Baptists came to the village to love and serve as well as to preach.

The new building is the fourth meeting place of the church which began as a preaching station of the Nazareth Baptist Church in 1962.

Much of the actual construction was done by members themselves. A natural spring on the grounds has been encircled with a wall of hand-hewn stone and will serve as the baptistry.

Kentucky Church Ordains Hometown Woman Minister

GRAVEL SWITCH, Ky. (BP) — Suzanne Coyle, 24, was ordained to the gospel ministry by her home congregation, Beech Fork Baptist Church here, in February.

Although ordaining a woman is still a relative oddity among Southern Baptists, especially in rural communities, Coyle feels she has been accepted by the people in her home community, where she has lived most of her life.

A graduate of Centre College in Danville, Ky., and Princeton Theological Seminary, she is presently chaplain-pastor of Center City Baptist Chapel, in Philadelphia, Pa., employed by the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board's church extension department as a missionary associate.

The chapel is a mission extension of the Paoli Baptist Church, Paoli, Pa. Coyle also serves as a chaplain to the YMCA residence in which the chapel meets, according to a board spokesman.

At first, Coyle said, she did not want to "become aware of God's leading," but the call she felt became inescapable. She does not consider herself a crusader for women's lib and explains that her concern for her "call into the ministry came first."

"The most important thing about ordination is not that it makes you a minister. It is only a sign that God has called you and people have responded to your ministry. Being a minister means helping people."

See America . . . the Media Way

Church Library Emphasis Week 1977

NASHVILLE — "See America . . . the Media Way" is the theme of this year's Church Library Emphasis Week, which may be scheduled any time a church decides to feature the services of its media center/church library. The theme also is the focus of a promotion kit produced by the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board's church library department to assist media center/church library workers in highlighting the materials and services that are available to church members.

Religious Survey Set For Micronesia

By Dan Martin

PHOENIX (BP) — A religious survey of Micronesia — a sprawling American territory 5,000 miles west of California — has been approved by directors of the Southern Baptist Home Mission Board.

The directors, at their spring meeting here, appropriated funds for the study, to be conducted this summer by Douglas and Ruth Clark, faculty members at Oklahoma Baptist University.

In presenting the matter to directors, the board's executive director-treasurer, William G. Tanner, noted the survey is a joint venture among the Home and Foreign Mission Boards and the Hawaii Baptist Convention.

The survey was undertaken at the request of the Hawaii Convention, according to E. W. Hunke Jr., Home Mission Board regional coordinator who works in the western United States.

"Dr. (Edmond) Walker, (Hawaii Convention executive secretary) told us that 13 years ago the Hawaii Convention asked him to lead to evangelizing the Pacific basin area. Now, with the tremendous growth in Micronesia from tourism, military construction and other building, the need is even more pressing," Hunke said.

Winston Crawley, director of the overseas division of the Foreign Mission Board, commented that the survey is a continuation of activities already under way in the Pacific basin.

"We have had foreign missionaries on Guam for 16 years, Crawley said, adding that four missionary families currently serve on the American territory.

The families are the J. Wesley Brizendines, the John Calhouns, the Parkes Marlers and the Carl Yarnells. Brizendine is chairman of the Guam Mission and is in student work at Guam University, which draws students from across the Micronesia area.

"The survey has been a joint venture from the start," Crawley said, noting that Brizendine has assisted in planning and arrangements.

"We are interested in examining the spiritual needs of the Central Pacific, and to determine how Southern Baptists can relate to those needs in the most effective way," Brizendine says.

Clark, who teaches sociology and cultural anthropology, said the American trust territory covers "about 3,000 miles, but if you put all the land into one area, it would not equal more than about two-thirds the size of Rhode Island. It is a huge water mass with only a few islands, small and far apart."

While there are some 3,140 islands in Micronesia, only about 100 are inhabited. Population is estimated at 300,000.

The Clarks will visit Hawaii and Guam for consultation with Baptist leaders there, and will center their efforts on the Marianas, Carolines and Marshalls. They will visit places with exotic names like Truk, Yap, Ponape, Palau, Tinian, Rota, Saipan, Majuro, Kwajalein, and Ebeye.

Is Religious News Non-Prophet?

PHILADELPHIA (RNS) — Eternity magazine, the evangelical monthly published here, has affirmed that there is a need for responsible investigative reporting in the Christian press.

In an article in its March issue entitled "Our Non-Prophet Press," editor William J. Petersen and executive editor Stephen Board comment, "Although parts of the evangelical press are exhibiting a growing interest in interpretive reporting, some Christian leaders today are affirming that Christian publishing has got to be different. Its purpose is to build up, not tear down; edify, not expose and destroy."

But, the editors say, "the American church of the 1970s has some unique characteristics that muddy the waters." Citing the rise of "parachurch" organizations such as the Billy Graham Evangelistic Association and youth for Christ, they write, "Public opinion enables the parachurch organization to survive; hence accurate evaluation of these organizations, whether from the press or respected individuals, is essential."

Somewhat related to this, the Eternity editors say, is that "the average Christian, including the average minister, has no critical defense against PR (public relations) propaganda: there is simply no way of knowing if the orphanage around the world gets the money sent for it. A high degree of trust is called for by the mission or organization."

Woman's Missionary Union

H. Roe Bartle Convention Hall

June 12-13, 1977

Kansas City, Mo.

Theme: "World, Listen!"
"Let all who have ears, listen!" (Matt. 11:15 Montgomery)

Sunday Afternoon, June 12, 3 p.m.

Bold Mission Rally

(Planned jointly by Home Mission Board, Foreign Mission Board and WMU and promoted jointly by SBC Pastors' Conference, Southern Baptist Ministers' Wives Conference, Southern Baptist Music Conference, Southern Baptist Evangelists Conference, and Southern Baptist Directors of Associational Missions Conference.)

Hymn—"I Will Sing the Wondrous Story"
Prayer—Mrs. Tom Barber, Johnson, Kan., president, Kansas-Nebraska WMU
Drama—Bold Missions from Adam to tomorrow
Writer and director—Ed Seabough, director, personnel recruitment services, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.
Music Coordinator—Phillip C. Posey, director of instrumental studies, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
Dramatic Coordinator—Mrs. Janice Glover, theatre director, William Jewell College, Liberty, Mo.
Technical Director—Campbell Thomas, Peter Wolf Associates, Dallas, Tex.
Music—"Jubilation," group of Grand Canyon College students, Phoenix, Ariz., directed by Bill Risinger, minister of music, First Baptist Church
Dramatic Narrators—Gerald Ware, minister of music and youth, First Baptist Church, Pauls Valley, Okla.
Darrell Ware, minister of music and youth, First Baptist Church, Atoka, Okla.
Harold Ware, minister of music and youth, First Baptist Church, Wewoka, Okla.
Actors—Students from William Jewell College
Allen Elston, missionary to Indians, Warm Springs, Ore.
Jimmy Anderson, missionary to Indians, Shawnee, Okla.
International Speakers:
Jose Borras, president, Baptist Convention of Spain, Madrid
Lambert Mills, pastor, Antigua, West Indies
Samuel Fadji, pastor, Ogbomoso, Nigeria

Hymn—"Come All Christians, Be Committed"
Hour of Prayer for Bold Missions—30 separate prayer groups led by the state WMU presidents, home missionaries, and foreign missionaries
Prayer Guide Writer—Carolyn (Mrs. Claude H.) Rhea, author and schoolteacher, Birmingham, Ala.

Monday Morning, June 13, 9:30 a.m.

Hymn—"This Is My Father's World"
Prayer—Mrs. Donald Murphy, Kansas City, Mo., president, Missouri WMU
Meditation—"Messages from God to Woman" Josephine Pile, senior design consultant, Sunday School Department, Baptist Sunday School Board, Nashville, Tenn.
Report of the WMU Executive Director—Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, Ala.
Hymn—"O, For a Thousand Tongues to Sing"
Address—"Spanish World, Listen!" Mike Mojica, home missionary, Laredo, Tex.
Special Music—
Address—"Pleasure World, Listen!" Robert Tremaine, home missionary, Miami, Fla.
Missions Mandate—Scripture Choir, William Jewell College students, director by Janice Glover

Monday Afternoon, June 13, 2 p.m.

Hymn—"Because He Lives"
Prayer—Mrs. Wayne Dehoney, Louisville, Ky., president, Kentucky WMU
Meditation—"Messages from God to Woman" Josephine Pile, Nashville, Tenn.
Feature—"Big City, Listen!" Dale Cross, director, Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association, with James Queen, church planner, and Don Sharp, associate director of missions
Hymn—"We Are Called to Be God's People"
Business—
Special Music—
Address—"Africa, Listen!" Carlos Owens, foreign missionary, Moshi, Tanzania
Missions Mandate—Scripture Choir

Monday Evening, June 13, 7:30 p.m.

Hymn—"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"
Missions Petition—Scripture Choir

Jerry Oswalt To Speak At Carey Commencement

Baccalaureate speaker for the May 21 commencement day ceremonies will be Jerry Oswalt, vice-president for student affairs and a member of the religion and philosophy department faculty of the college.

Baccalaureate services for the 306 graduates will be held at 10 a.m. on Saturday morning, May 21, with commencement ceremonies taking place at 5 p.m. that same day.

Oswalt, who has been on the Carey campus since 1971, is a graduate of Mississippi State University and of the New Orleans Seminary. Married to the former Shelve Jean Hornsby,

the Starkville native is father of two children—Deborah and David.

CHURCH TRAINING

Senior Adult Fellowships Feature Scholle Of BMC

Louis Scholle, of Blue Mountain College, will headline a team giving leadership to five area Senior Adult Fellowships in Mississippi during the week of May 23-27, according to Kermit S. King, consultant for senior adult ministries with the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Scholle, who is chairman of the divi-

Meditations—"Messages from God to Woman," Josephine Pile, Nashville, Tenn.
Special Music—
Address—"America, Listen!" William G. Tanner, executive director-treasurer, Home Mission Board, Atlanta, Ga.
Challenge Address—"Speak Out, Reach Out," John R. Claypool, pastor, Northminster Baptist Church, Jackson, Miss.
Hymn—"Send Me, O Lord, Send Me"
Adjournment

Music director, Charles E. Lovell, Jr., minister of music; organist, Gus L. Berry, Jr., organist; and pianist, all of Cliff Temple Baptist Church, Dallas, Tex.; choral music, Temple Choir, Cliff Temple Baptist Church.

WMU Officers
President—Mrs. A. Harrison Gregory, Danville, Va.
Vice Presidents—WMU State Presidents
Recording Secretary—Mrs. William Ellis, Shelbyville, Ky.
Executive Director—Carolyn Weatherford, Birmingham, Ala.

Ruffin, Compere Speak At Clarke Graduation May 13

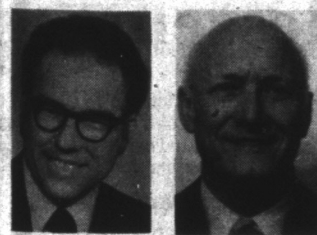
Clarke College Commencement Day activities will be held on Friday, May 13, in First Church, Newton, with the commencement service at 10 a.m. and the graduation service at 3 p.m.

Speaker for the commencement service will be James A. Ruffin, pastor of Poplar Springs Drive Church, Meridian. The graduation address will be presented by W. L. Compere, who will be retiring in July after 22 years as President of Clarke and will become president emeritus at that time. Music for the day will be under the direction of Clark Adams of the college music faculty.

Ruffin, native of Maben, Mississippi, is a graduate of Mississippi State University and Southwestern Seminary. He has been in the Meridian pastorate since 1972.

W. Lowrey Compere came to the Presidency of Clarke College on January 1, 1955, from the pastorate of Parkview Church in Greenville. He previously had served for eight and a half years as pastor of Woodland Hills Church, Jackson. Among his other pastorates was Fifteenth Avenue Church, Meridian. He is a native of Smith County and was reared in Mount Olive. His educational background includes the B.A. from Mississippi College, M.A. from Peabody College, and D.D. from William Carey. He attended New Orleans Seminary and has done graduate work at the University of California.

During his years of service at Clarke he has been active in educational circles, serving as vice-president and president of the Southern Association of Junior Colleges, vice-president of the Association of Southern Baptist Colleges and Schools, and vice-president and president of the Mississippi Association of Colleges.



Ruffin

Mrs. Compere, the former Jacqueline Senter of Fulton, has the B.A. degree from Blue Mountain College and M.A. from Peabody College. They are the parents of three children.

Sullivan, Gandy Speakers, BMC Graduation Exercises

The president of the Southern Baptist Convention and the Lieutenant Governor of Mississippi will be featured speakers during graduation exercises May 8 at Blue Mountain College.

James L. Sullivan of Hermitage, Tennessee, current president of the SBC, will deliver the baccalaureate address on Sunday morning, May 8.

Born in Lawrence County, Mississippi, Sullivan is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary.

Lt. Governor Evelyn Gandy will deliver an address during graduation exercises Sunday afternoon beginning at 3 p.m. in Berry Auditorium.

Miss Gandy became the first woman in the history of the state to win elec-



Sullivan



Gandy

Ask Audit Comments

The American Institute of Certified Public Accountants has issued for public comment a tentative set of accounting principles and reporting practices for nonprofit organizations not covered by existing AICPA industry audit guides. This will include churches.

A committee of Southern Baptist State Convention Business Officers headed by A. L. Nelson, comptroller-business manager of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board, is working on a reply to this draft. Any church member or officer concerned about what will finally be issued in the audit guide is invited to study the guide and register his opinions. The guide may be received by writing to: Gabriel V. Carifi, Manager, Accounting Standards AICPA, 1211 Avenue of the Americas, New York, N. Y. 10036 (File Reference 3605).

WMU Sessions

(Continued from page 1)

Am: Messages From God."

Dale Cross, director, Chicago Metropolitan Baptist Association, will lead the "Big City, Listen!" presentation, which also features James Queen, church planner for the association, and Don Sharp, associate director of missions.

International and missionary speakers in the dramatic presentation in the Bold Mission Rally are Allen Elston, missionary to Indians, Warm Springs, Ore.; Jimmy Anderson, missionary to Indians, Shawnee, Okla.; Jose Borras, president, Baptist Convention of Spain, Madrid; Lambert Mills, pastor, St. Johns, Antigua, West Indies; and Samuel Fadji, pastor, Ogbomoso, Nigeria.

The rally will be promoted jointly by other meetings preceding the SBC annual convention. They are the Pastors' Conference, Ministers' Wives Conference, Church Music Conference, Evangelists Conference and Directors of Associational Missions Conference.

The drama at the rally will be written and directed by Ed Seabough of the SBC Home Mission Board, Atlanta. Phillip C. Posey of William Jewell College will coordinate the music, Mrs. Janice Glover of William Jewell College will coordinate dramatics and Campbell Thomas of Peter Wolfe Associates, Dallas, will direct technical aspects.

tion to a statewide constitutional office in 1959 when she was elected state treasurer. Her service as Lt. Gov. marks another first for a woman in that office.

Sullivan

(Continued from page 1)

going to prefer men pastors," he said. "In the SBC, we have quite a few women ordained as deacons, but it's still a matter of controversy and differences of interpreting scriptures." Eventually, Sullivan said, women and ethnics will come to have more positions of leadership at all levels of SBC life. "It's moving in that direction. I think it will come in time, and we'll be logical and accept it when it does come."

On taxation of churches, Sullivan said: "Religious institutions and churches ought to pay taxes on any area of their work that isn't related to their charter purpose. If you put in some facility in general competition with the public, you ought to pay taxes on it. But, 'we should not be paying taxes in areas where a church is being the church with its own spiritual ministry. The power to tax is the power to destroy,'" he said, quoting John Marshall, 19th century U. S. Supreme Court Justice.

Sullivan said the denomination's greatest accomplishment in recent decades is the "ability of the agencies to work together toward common objectives as a team. Before World War II, the agencies could hardly communicate with each other. . . and I think we're at the point where—if we can get motivation built to a high level—we're in for some real growth and development as a denomination."

Kier Takes Internship

Duann Kier, a 1977 graduate of Mississippi College, will be summer intern for the Baptist Record, June through August.

The 22-year-old English major, will be learning about the operation of the state's Baptist paper, doing layout work, and writing news copy.

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. L. D. Kier, of Star, Ms. Kier is senior class secretary, is on the BSU executive council, and has reported for Mc's The Collegian. She earned the associate in arts degree from Hinds Junior College.

She will be working in the Baptist Record offices during the study leave of Anne McWilliams who will be taking courses at Baylor University and Birkbeck College, University of London.

From Polio To Pagliacci

(Continued from page 1)

Upon completing Bartlett High School near Memphis, Tenn., Nichols went to Oklahoma Baptist University in Shawnee where he earned the bachelor of music education degree. He received the master of sacred music degree from New Orleans Seminary in 1959. And for a time, he was minister of music for a church in Chattanooga, Tenn., traveling once a week to Atlanta to study voice with Ralph Errolle, New York Metropolitan Opera star. He gained acclaim with the Knoxville, Tenn., Symphony while a professor at Carson-Newman College in Jefferson City, Tenn. Nichols was given an assistantship at Florida State University (FSU), Tallahassee, in voice and opera, where he earned the doctor of music degree. At FSU, Nichols studied voice with Elena Nikolaidi, a former Met singer.

At FSU, he met his future wife, Jarvis Rose. "At first she avoided me, having seen me portray the part of Pagliacci, who kills his wife in the play. She was scared of me; she would simply avoid me."

But Clint and Jarvis were eventually married, and left soon after, for New York City. Jarvis worked as a receptionist for CBS and sang at Radio City while Clint studied with such opera notables as Winfred Cecil, Carolina Segura, Alberta Masello and Martin Rich. He had grants from the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund for Music, William Matthes Sullivan Foundation, and New York State. In the process, he won a contract with the New York City Opera at Lincoln Center, where he became a leading tenor — "another dream come true."

During the Nichols' time in New York, he was tenor soloist for the Riverside Church of New York, with Beryl Red at the Manhattan Baptist Church, but eventually felt God leading him away from New York. Nichols, raised a Southern Baptist, had been active since childhood in the Bellevue Baptist Church of Memphis, where the well-known Robert G. Lee was pastor.

Lee, a former Southern Baptist Convention president, had written letters of encouragement to the young Nichols. And Tommy Lane, the minister of music at Bellevue, really laid the groundwork for the man who would become well known in New York opera circles as a tenor who sang with keen thrust, eerie force and accuracy.

The Nichols moved back to Tallahassee to complete his doctorate and then to the University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg to teach and sing. From there, they went to Wingate (N.C.) College, a Baptist school, where he served as chairman of the music department.

"I thought that this was going to be the place where we'd finally settle down. We had a good job in a beautiful country setting, a nice house, animals for the children, Coleman and Roselyn," recalls Nichols.

But that changed when the opportunity came to teach at the New Orleans Seminary, he said. "I felt that this was the place to be in terms of teaching more lives in preparation for ministry."

Nichols maintains a solid, husky physical appearance. He owns and flies a twin engine, private plane and is often seen on campus, in the summertime, riding his bike along the oaklined campus streets.

"Many feel sorry for Dr. Nichols when they first see his slight limp and hear the whispered remark that he had polio," a friend notes.

But the pity is short-lived: He takes a "back seat" to no one in accomplishments — "with or without polio," the friend concluded.



Scholle

Pensacola, Fla. Sessions is consultant in the church recreation department and author of a book, Senior Adult Mixers, along with other publications related to recreation.

Bizzell is associate pastor of First Baptist Church, Pensacola. He is active in working with his own senior adult group and has spoken in various area senior adult programs sponsored by the senior adult section of the family life department of the Baptist Sunday School Board.

Conferences are scheduled on May 23 at First Church, Greenville; on May 24 at First Church, Oxford; on May 25 at First Church, Columbus; on May 26 at Calvary Church, Jackson, and on May 27 at Temple Church, Hattiesburg.

The fellowships will begin at 9:30 a.m. and adjourn at 2:00 p.m. Each person is asked to bring his own "brown bag" lunch. Dessert and drink will be provided at the host church without charge to participants.

Program features include a balance between fellowship activities and serious discussions with entertainment features planned during the noon meal. In four locations these features will be led by amateur magicians and in the Jackson meeting by the Ladies Washboard Band of one of the area churches.

The Baptist Record

OFFICIAL JOURNAL OF THE MISSISSIPPI BAPTIST CONVENTION

Editorials

A Fitting Observance

We are in the midst of Christian Home Week, which is culminated on the second Sunday in May by Mother's Day.

This is not new, of course. We had the same observance last year and the year before. In the United States we began observing Mother's Day even before 1914, when Congress established the official date.

And well we should. There was a time when mothers had more influence on world affairs than was to be found from any other source. Men who made history - changing decisions and actions were to a great extent the products of their mothers' influence.

This influence does not seem to be as great as it once was, and the difference seems to be reflected in a changing

world.

There is no point in trying to determine all the causes for change and it would be impossible anyway, but perhaps one culprit is the inflation that began seeping into our society after World War II and then ran amuck. Mothers went to work to make ends meet, and then Madison Avenue began its mission of convincing us that the ends were much higher up the ladder than we had imagined them to be. Many of us have lived in a pretty fine style, but we have paid for it. Children come home from school to empty houses.

Who has the answer? It is impossible for many families to provide even necessities without both parents working, and many mothers work so that their children might have something

more than necessities.

The question of the moment is not trying to decide if something went wrong and if so, what. Generally, things are going well in the face of substantial difficulties. Many working mothers still have managed to exert a meaningful influence over their children, and we have innumerable responsible and dedicated young people and young adults to testify to that.

Wielding the right sort of influence is harder now than in the past, however; and we salute those mothers who are still giving it everything they have in order to prepare their children to live worthwhile lives.

Mother's Day is a fitting observance of their efforts.

Name Convention Messengers

It is time for churches to begin to give thought to the election of messengers to the Southern Baptist Convention. The convention will be June 14 to 16 in Kansas City, Mo.

Pre-registration forms are available, and their use would save the messengers a great deal of trouble when they arrive. The pre-registered messenger will be able to avoid the organized confusion that usually accompanies convention registration. He can even get his Book of Reports sent to him in advance. Forms are printed in the current issue of Baptist Program and additional cards are available from the executive secretary's office.

The Southern Baptist Convention is a miracle of making voluntary cooperation work. The church does not

have to send messengers unless it wants to do so. When they arrive the messengers speak for themselves and no one else, and their churches are not bound by the decisions made by all the messengers in convention. The more messengers there are, however, the better the opportunity for the decisions to correctly represent the positions of the great mass of Southern Baptists. Therefore, the selection and sending of messengers is a vital thing if not necessary.

A convention is many things. Primarily it is a business session to adopt a budget and consider missions efforts all over the world. In a broad definition, the missions work of Southern Baptists includes the business of a number of boards and agencies. All report to the convention.

The convention is also a time of fellowship when old friends who have become separated because of their work can get together for a few hours of reunion.

The convention is also a time of inspiration, for great messages are always a part of the schedule. This year will be no exception, and one of those messages is to be delivered by a Mississippian. He is Frank Pollard, pastor of First Baptist Church, Jackson. Of course, people in Mississippi don't have to go to Kansas City to hear him speak, but it certainly will help make the trip worthwhile.

It will be a fine convention. In one way or another they all are, for they represent Southern Baptists arriving at decisions. Churches, plan to send messengers from your fellowship.

A New Record In Scriptures

Southern Baptists did not lead the list of contributors to the American Bible Society last year. Our 1976 totals of \$275,631 were eclipsed by the American Lutheran Church with \$343,627. It was the first time since 1963 that Southern Baptists were not the leaders.

Mississippi Baptists, incidentally, gave \$6,054 of the total.

Be that as it may, the society has continued its activity of distributing the scripture around the world and in 1976 it reached a new record. Scripture distribution throughout the United States by the society for last year amounted to 114,769,048 copies, according to the annual report the society has released to the Southern Baptist Convention.

The U.S. figure represents 5,299,625 more copies than in 1975. And when the U. S. total is combined with the worldwide United Bible Societies the figure reaches 340 million, which is a new record.

In December of 1976 the American Bible Society announced the publication of the entire Bible in Today's English Version. This was the culmination of an effort that got under way in 1961 when Wendell Belew of the Home Mission Board asked the society for scriptures translated for the fourth grade level. This would mean, on an average, for persons of about 10 years of age.

Robert G. Bratcher, a Southern Baptist, went to work; and in 1966 the To-

day's English Version New Testament was published. Ten years later the entire Bible became available in this popular translation, and distribution has soared. One million copies of the new Bible were distributed in December, and American Bible Society officials expect the 1977 distribution to reach 10 million copies.

The purpose of the American Bible Society through the years has been the translation, publication, and distribution of scriptures without assuming a doctrinal position and without comment or profit. The society has been in business in this fashion since 1816. The budget for the society for 1976 was \$13,625,000, the largest in its history. Of this only \$1,739,195 came from churches.

Guest Editorial

The Peace Of God

One of the greatest things in the Christian life is the peace which God puts into our hearts.

Philippians 4:7 has been translated by J. B. Phillips as follows: "And the peace of God, which transcends human understanding, will keep constant guard over our hearts and minds as they rest in Christ Jesus." This translation helps to bring out the meaning clearly and superbly.

It is well for us to remember as we read these words that Paul the Apostle was a prisoner in Rome when he wrote them. Perhaps he heard the measured tread of the guard who stood outside his door. Certainly he was constantly in the presence of the soldiers of the mighty Roman Empire.

The figure of speech was a natural

one to spring to his mind under the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

And it was a vivid figure for the members of the church at Philippi for their city was a colony of the Roman Empire. It was a military outpost of that empire. Roman soldiers marched its streets and stood guard upon its walls. They were there as a first line of defense against the barbarian hordes of the north which were already threatening to pour in upon the Roman civilization.

Paul tells his friends at Philippi that the peace of God will keep constant guard over their hearts and minds. Whenever the fears and worries of life threatened to pour, in this peace of God is standing ready to turn them back. As the Roman garrison guarded the little city of Macedonia, so the peace of God guards our minds and hearts from the anxieties which could destroy our happiness and usefulness.

This peace transcends human understanding.

It is a peace which the world talks much about but doesn't really understand. For the world thinks of peace of mind as the absence of trouble achieved through physical security. And that is not what Paul was talking about.

The world is strangely mixed up on the subject placing prime emphasis on physical possessions, which are not wrong in themselves, but which do not provide this spiritual blessing.

Paul knew this peace from firsthand experience. It was his in the trials of storm and shipwreck. It was his in beating and imprisonment. It was his as he faced execution at the hands of the authorities.

It is a peace which is entirely independent of circumstances and surroundings. It is the peace of mind

which God alone can give through Christ.

It is the peace which Jesus promised to his followers in the fourteenth chapter of the Gospel according to John. It is the peace which he himself knew as he came to the cross. He wants to share it with his followers.

This peace can be yours as you, too, pray. "Thy will be done."

By Jack Gritz
Editor, The Baptist Messenger

Book Reviews

IN THE MORNING, BREAD, devotions for the new day selected by Florence M. Taylor; Keats Publishing Company, New Canaan, Conn.; 391 pages.

This book is made up of 310 devotions in its main section and then adds enough devotions for special days and holidays to complete the 365 days. It contains a collection of the writings of the great thinkers of several centuries.

THINKING THROUGH THE BIBLE, by John McNicol; Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, Mich.; 319 pages; \$9.95.

This Presbyterian author uses an exegetical and devotional approach to go through the Bible book by book.

TREASURY OF QUOTATIONS ON RELIGIOUS SUBJECTS, compiled by F. B. Proctor; Kregel Publications, Grand Rapids, Mich.; 816 pages; \$14.95.

This is a collection of thoughts and sayings of highly recognized men of all ages. It is well indexed and will provide a ready reference to give help in interpreting the scriptures.

MIMOSA by Amy Carmichael (Christian Literature Crusade, paper, \$1.50, reprint of a book first published in 1924).

Mimosa, the child of an Indian village, from a Hindu family and background, heard one afternoon about a God who loved her, and lived from then on under his influence, surmounting every kind of opposition and adversity. Mimosa comes vividly to life in this true story.

PRISONERS OF HOPE by James and Marti Hefley (Christian Publications, paper, \$3.95, 241 pp.).

This is the story of a small group of captives held with others in various prison camps in Vietnam. The primary focus is on seven adult missionaries and one child. These people struggle through 234 days of weariness on jungle trails, privation, disease, loneliness, weakness, and clashes of personality. But as "prisoners of hope" they are concerned that they may live triumphantly as representatives of Jesus Christ before their captors and fellow prisoners.

THEY MET JESUS by David Allan Hubbard (Trumpet Books published by A. J. Holman, paper, \$1.25, 123 pp.).

Vivid accounts of those in the Bible who met Jesus only briefly—and whose lives were changed forever! Some of the most fascinating persons in the Gospels are mentioned—among them the Roman centurion, the man who lived among the tombs; Mary Magdalene; and Jairus, the ruler whose daughter died.

WHAT I HAVE LIVED BY by Charles L. Allen (Fleming H. Revell, \$5.95, 159 pp.).

The autobiography of the man who is now pastor of First United Methodist Church of Houston, Texas, one of the largest congregations in the U. S. Allen has appeared on radio and TV frequently and is the author of at least 20 books on Christian living. Here he reflects upon his personal convictions, the biblical principles which most influenced him in his writings, and in his everyday living.

Three Steps To Successful Living



Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

A Gift To Mama

"Anne, I wonder if you appreciate your mother enough. She spent half the night sewing, taking out, and re-stitching your dress." That was Daddy talking to me, a long time ago. I had thoughtlessly chosen a very difficult dress pattern, confident that Mama could sew anything.

"You ought to be more grateful!" Now I know that Betty's wrath was justified when she took me to task on the street in West Point, Georgia. Mama and Daddy had given me a set of Samsonite luggage and I had complained because the color was green and not the beige I thought I wanted. That enduring gift is with me still (and I like the color fine) after 27 years and 48 states and 17 countries.

Granted I haven't said so often enough through the years. But I do appreciate you, Mama.

When I wrecked my bike on a red Alabama hill, it was you who rushed for the Merthiolate to doctor my skinned knee.

When I coughed in the night, it was you who got up to search for the Vicks or the turpentine and sugar.

When the bell rang for recess at Ridge Grove School, I opened my pink lunch box to find that you had packed in it my favorite, dried apple pie.

No matter where I've lived or traveled, I've been sure I could go to the mailbox and find a letter from you. If no one else remembered or took the time to write, I knew you would.

When I awoke in a hospital bed in a strange city, I found you there with your presence and your prayers.

When in my rush to leave for Europe I carelessly forgot my new raincoat, you lovingly packaged it. And you called me at the hotel in Washington, to tell me I would get a parcel in New York.

When I went out on my first date, Daddy didn't like the young man, but you were almost as happy as I.

You patiently listened when I practiced my speech for the oratorical contest or learned my part for the play.

If no one else read what I wrote, I knew that I had an audience of at least one, and that you would cut the article out and store it in a box in the closet or in a dresser drawer.

On Sundays if we had chicken, I knew you would save me the pulleybone.

And after I married I knew that at every visit you would bring your special gift of "a jar or two" of vegetables that you had grown yourself.

By your endless lists, you taught me the value of organization.

By your never giving up, you taught me not to be a quitter. I remember when you were WMU president the attendance was sometimes as low as two or three, but you never admitted defeat. And the organization grew strong under your leadership.

You taught me that loyalty to the church is important. Thank you for taking me to Sunday School and GA and Training Union and Vacation Bible School.

Thank you for making big occasions of birthdays and holidays—for all the work you've done for me in the wee hours of the night, and for all the gifts you've given me. Thank you for showing me through your life the meaning of Christian love.

Mama, I wish I could have given you an article in Reader's Digest like Helen Melyan gave her mother this month. But since I couldn't, I'll give you this column in the Baptist Record. With love, I wish you "Happy Mother's Day."

On The Moral Scene

GAMBLING REVIVAL — "The proliferation of state-run gambling schemes over the last several years has generated a great deal of revenue for state treasuries and a good many frustrated gamblers. From New York's Off Track Betting 'parlors' to Delaware's football cards and a wide variety of instant lotteries and numbers games sponsored by 13 states, the nation appears to be undergoing a gambling revival reminiscent of the Wild West. While the state schemes, with one or two exceptions, have been notably successful in rais-

ing much-needed public funds, they have also raised a host of disturbing questions that have for the most part been ignored in the initial euphoria over the bottom-line results. Many OTB shops, for example, have become seedy hangouts, frequented by loan sharks. Instant lotteries and numbers games have been carefully marketed to induce regular and multiple players, often led on by what can only be termed sucker plays. And such games, with their attendant hoopla and media coverage, are designed to attract those on the economic fringes

of society who can least afford to gamble. . . . The history of gambling has documented the terrible personal and social consequences that so often accompany it. Some questions remain to be asked about the current mania for state-run games of chance." America, January 15, 1977, page 24.

CAMPAIGN FUNDS: WHO GAVE, WHO GOT — Special interest groups . . . showered a record \$22.6 million on candidates for Congress in 1976—nearly double the amount given in 1974. Herewith the top givers and recipients in Senate and House races: DONORS: Medical associations, \$1,790,879; Dairy committees, \$1,362,159; AFL-CIO committees, \$996,910; Maritime unions, \$979,691; United Auto Workers, \$845,939; Energy interests, \$809,508; Education associations, \$752,272; Realtors, \$605,973; Financial institutions, \$529,193; Machinists, \$519,157. SENATE CANDIDATES: Vance Hartke (D., Ind.) \$245,700; Harrison Williams (D., N.J.) \$244,372; Lloyd Bentsen (D., Texas) \$229,299; John Tunney (D., Calif.) \$219,419; William Green (D., Pa.) \$216,660. HOUSE CANDIDATES: John Rhodes (R., Ariz.) \$98,620; Jim Mattox (D., Texas) \$85,310; Mark Hannaford (D., Calif.) \$81,368; Lloyd Meeds (D., Wash.) \$80,078; Thomas L. Ashley (D., Ohio) \$76,337. One notable trend in the 1976 donations was that business and professional groups nearly tripled their 1974 giving. But Big Labor still led those groups in total spending, \$8.2 million to \$7.1 million. In the past two years, some 370 new committees were created by corporations to channel political donations from officers and employees. . . . Of the top five recipients of private money among Senate candidates, three were defeated — Hartke, Tunney and Green. (Time, February 28, 1977)

Letters To The Editor

Pornography Laws

Dear Sir:

Because of a strong concern for morality, I have recently begun an effort to halt the massive distribution of pornography in Mississippi. This includes both magazines and the many adult type movies, which are no more than pornographic smut geared toward adults who are unable to mature in their mental and sexual behavior and who get some kick out of pervertedly feeding their lust. Such degradation is a danger to the whole of our society.

My first step was to go to my local district attorney to find out what legal ground we have to stand on. The D.A., eager to help, made a full study on obscenity laws in Mississippi. His findings were as follows:

Until 1976, Mississippi laws declared any act of selling, giving away, lending or showing of "any obscene or indecent picture, drawing, or photograph" to be illegal. But in the "ABC In-

terstate Theaters Inc., vs The State of Mississippi" case our laws were declared vague and were sent back to the Mississippi Legislature to be rewritten. In this rewriting words such as "obscene" and "indecent" were to be defined. As of yet, our legislators have taken no action on this matter. As a result, we have no obscenity law. Therefore, until our legislators act on this matter, anything and everything that is of pornographic nature is legal. No matter how vulgar, filthy, or obscene movies or books are, they are legal until our legislators act.

Action must be taken on our state will be drawn down a moral drain. Pornography is available to all ages. But, even if it were for adults only, it would still be outrageously perverted. Pornography is for sick minds to view to feed their twisted natures or for young minds to poison their abilities to mature normally.

Steve Casey, Minister
5th Street United Methodist Church
Meridian, MS.
Both the Mississippi House of Rep-

resentatives and the Senate had pornography bills introduced during the session just completed. Both died. There are those in the Legislature trying to get action. They just don't have enough help. That help needs to come from concerned citizens who will inform their legislators of their feelings. It's too late this year, but those legislators who recognize the danger will try to get action again next year. — Editor

Washington (BP) — A homosexual group on the campus of Mississippi State University lost in an attempt to have the U. S. Supreme Court rule that their advertisements must be run in the student newspaper. Attorneys for the university officials, including the president, argued successfully that they did not control the operation of the newspaper and that any effort to dictate newspaper policy on their part would amount to a violation of the student editors' free press rights.

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Three Generations Of Deacons

Friendship Church, McComb, has three living direct generations in the deaconship. Pictured are Charlie Jackson 87, seated, and his son C. E. Jackson, right, and grandson (son of C. E.), Hugh Jackson, left. Deacon C. E. is Financial Committee chairman and Sunday School and Church Training department director. Grandson Hugh serves on the Personnel Committee and is also a Sunday School department director and Church Training leader. Both men are members of the Sanctuary Choir. The elder Jackson was orphaned at an early age in West Point and after some years in a Jackson orphanage, moved to McComb as a teenager. He is a retired truck (vegetable) farmer. S. Ray Pridgen is the Friendship pastor.

Native Of Mississippi Leads Evangelical Choir In Rome

ROME — James D. Watts, a native Mississippian, directed the Rome Evangelical Choir in its Easter performance of Handel's "Messiah" at the historic Church of St. Ignazio (San Ignazio) here. Southern Baptist Missionary Watts, a five-year veteran director of the choir, has been in Italy since 1968.

Baptists, Methodists, Waldensians, Brethren and Salvation Army members of seven or eight nationalities make up the choir. Watts was one of four soloists for the Easter concert: a Roman sang soprano; a Welch, contralto; a Scott, bass; and Watts, tenor.

Complementing the choir were many members of an English-language Catholic choir from the parish church of Santa Maria Mater Ecclesiae which is led by one of the evangelical choir members.

The following evening members of the evangelical choir joined the Catholic group in presenting "Messiah" to more than 250 persons at the seventh century church of San Saba on Aventine Hill.

Helen (Mrs. William C.) Ruchti, Southern Baptist missionary press representative, stated that, "In a country where Baptists are few in number — only about 5,000 presently — and where traditional animosities have divided Italians, music is building bridges of cooperation and understanding."

"For centuries," she added, "the Pope in Rome has carried the title

'Pontifex Maximus' (the great bridge builder). Modern Italian Christians are demonstrating that Christian music is a great bridge builder — that music can help bridge over differences and prejudices."

The Rome Evangelical Choir is the first Italian evangelical choir to sing in St. Ignazio church although several choirs from other nations have performed there. The church, a popular tourist attraction, was built between 1626 and 1685 to honor the founder of the Jesuit order.

St. Ignazio church is known for its ceiling frescoes of the "Entry of St. Ignazio into Paradise;" for the lapis lazuli urn which contains the remains of San Luigi Gonzaga, a Jesuit priest; and for the fake dome painted in perspective of a flat ceiling by Andrea Pozzo.

Southern Baptist Missionaries Stanley Crabb Jr. and his daughter, Ruth Ann; William C. Ruchti Jr.; Robert A. Holifield; and Marylu Moore are also members of the evangelical choir.

Vatican City (RNS) — Pope Paul urged Roman Catholics to pray that the Church will have more priests and nuns. According to Vatican statistics, the number of Catholic priests throughout the world dropped from 425,000 in 1969 to 409,000 in 1974. The number of newly ordained priests decreased by almost one-third in the same period.

Plane Crash Aborts Journalistic Mission

By Robert O'Brien
BLUEFIELD, Va. (BP) — When Gerald White and David Roberts—their small Cessna 150 barely above stall speed—saw the second rocky ridge looming ahead, they thought they would never make it.

And they were right. White, dean of students at Bluefield College, a Baptist school here, and Roberts, the school's director of public relations, had just escaped a crackup with the small, single engine plane White piloted barely cleared a ridge by two feet. They hadn't expected to see the second one.

Now, their journey to film a mission of mercy by students of their college in flood ravaged West Virginia, ended abruptly.

"Hold on Roberts, we're going to hit the trees," exclaimed White, who had used every bit of his piloting skill to get them out of the small Kentucky airport where they had stopped to refuel after being blown off course.

The small Combs Airport, between Prestonsburg and Paintsville, Ky., nestles in a valley, along a river, between two mountains.

And the little Cessna didn't have the power to make it.

"Normal takeoff speed is 70 knots," Roberts said. "Stall speed is 40 knots. Gerald had the plane at 45 to 50 knots during the takeoff—trying to get the speed up."

"If Gerald had dropped the nose to gain airspeed, we'd have gone head-on into the mountain, and we'd never have made it," Roberts recalls painfully.

Instead of cracking up head-on, White managed to pilot the small plane to within five feet of clearing trees atop the second ridge. But the plane clipped the top of the trees, which cushioned the fall. The small plane nosed down through the foliage into the ground. The fuselage cracked open, and windshield shattered. One door jammed shut.

The full gasoline tank cooperated—no explosion.

White and Roberts walked away with minor injuries—a broken nose and black eyes for White and a sprained ankle and two cracked ribs for Roberts.

"We sat down and prayed, thanking God for our lives," recalls White, a former Southern Baptist missionary to Zambia.

Meanwhile, a larger Cessna, a 172, circled overhead, looking for survivors. A pilot for Industrial Fuels Corp. flying his company president back home to Pontiac, Mich., had seen the little plane clear the first ridge, but not the second one.

He ran to his plane turned on his radio and, sure enough, the little plane's emergency signal, triggered by impact, was transmitting. He sent the Cessna 172 to scout the accident and summoned a National Guard helicopter, there for refueling, to rush to the scene with a rescue team.

White and Roberts walked about a mile to the helicopter, which flew them to a hospital for an examination.

They had no idea how they would get back to Bluefield.

But the Industrial Fuels Corp. pilot had the answer. "Do you want to be a humanitarian today?" he asked company president, William L. Mullen.

Mullen did. He flew them to Huntington, W. Va., pressed two \$50 bills in their hand, saying, "You're going to need this to get prescriptions filled and rent a car. Send me a check when you get home."

Now, it all seems unreal to Roberts, as he reflects on the near tragedy.

"I'm a study pilot, but that's enough of flying for me," he said. "Gerald says he'll fly again—but not in a plane that small."



A Woman's World Reaches Far Beyond the Ironing Board

Wilde Fancher

I never have been a poor loser.

Coming in second, third, tenth, last, even, never has bothered me greatly. Just so long as I came in. Just so long as I crossed the finish line. Quitting never has appealed to me.

So, this week I'll tell you about coming in after first. Third, to be exact.

I kept waiting to see if anyone else would tell you that Anne McWilliams came in first, but if anyone did, I missed it.

I belong to Mississippi Press Women, so does Anne. Each year MPW sponsors a writing contest that has unpeeped categories. This time Anne and I entered our Baptist Record columns.

Another good friend of mine entered her book, and I entered the Rainbow, so I had mixed emotions about the Awards Banquet.

Now, this is the kind of contest in which judges do not give "places" if they feel no entries merit them. For instance, one category had only one entry, and it was awarded a third place.

To make a long story short, Anne won first place for her column, and it went on to national competition. I'm sure it will place there, and this year the national convention is close enough for her to be there to hear her name called and receive her award.

The year the Sunday column I was then writing for the Jackson Daily-Clarion-Ledger won first in Mississippi and third in national, the convention was too far away for me to go. It's nice to know Anne's experiencing such success with her column because I can remember how pleased she is about the Ironing Board every time something nice happens to it. Buttered bread, maybe this is?

It really seemed proper for you to know about Anne's honor. I don't know a nicer person to be beat by.

Matter of fact, I don't know a nicer person.

Washington, D. C. (RNS) — A task force of the National Organization for Women (NOW) has called upon the U. S. Roman Catholic bishops to deal with recommendations made by the Detroit "Call to Action" conference last Fall which NOW said "delivered a prophetic message to the Church."

The Women and Religion Task Force of NOW, in a "pastoral letter" that contained "maternal" blessings as well as admonitions, particularly urged the bishops to ordain women, married men and homosexuals to the priesthood and clarify the rights and responsibilities of married couples to "form their own consciences concerning contraception."



NASHVILLE—April marked the 40th anniversary of the popular devotional guide OPEN WINDOWS. During those years, 11 persons have served as editor of the guide. Shown here are current editor Sam Brents (center), Wallace Greene, right, was the first editor (1938-40), and Donald Ackland, left, served the longest tenure of any editor (1951-62).

Open Windows Celebrates 40th Year Of Publication

NASHVILLE — Open Windows, a Southern Baptist devotional guide with a circulation that exceeds 800,000 for each quarter, celebrated its 40th birthday in April.

Since the first issue appeared in April 1937, Open Windows has provided 14,610 daily readings, taken from every book in the Bible and more than 900 chapters. The devotional guide is published by the Sunday School department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

A person who has read all of these Scripture passages has read an equivalent of the entire Bible three times, and an individual who has been following the reading suggestions only since 1964 has read an equivalent of the entire Bible once. Sam Brents, current editor of Open Windows, requests anyone who has used this guide the entire 40 years to please notify him.

While the number of different writ-

ers of devotional comments runs into the unknown hundreds, they represent 30 states and as many foreign countries. Eleven persons have been listed as editor, and others have served for brief periods as acting editor.

High C. Moore, editorial secretary of the Sunday School Board in 1937, evidently was responsible for the new publication, but no editor was identified until a year later, when Wallace Greene's name appeared. Greene, editor until 1940, wrote for the first issue and, 40 years later, for the April-June 1977 anniversary issue.

Subsequent editors were N. R. Drummond (1941-42), W. R. White (1944), Howard M. Reaves (1944-45), Gayle L. McGlothlen (1947-50), Donald F. Ackland (1951-62), C. Aubrey Hearn (1962-64), I. Lamar Maffett Jr. (1965-67), Mavis Allen (1969-70), Eugene Skelton (1970-71) and Sam Brents (1971-present).

Convention Gains 430 New Church Training Programs

NASHVILLE (BP) — Southern Baptist churches began 430 new Church Training programs during the past six months in a special emphasis coordinated by the church training department of the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

According to reports from the 33 state Baptist conventions, more than 16,800 persons were involved in new Church Training programs Sunday, April 3, which was designated as New Day for Training throughout the Southern Baptist Convention.

With another year remaining in the three-year New Day for Training emphasis, the total number of new Church Training programs begun since October 1, 1975, now total more than 1,100.

Although this year's emphasis fell short of its goal of establishing one new program for each association in the

Southern Baptist Convention, several state conventions exceeded their goals.

The Florida Baptist Convention, which set a goal of 47 new Church Training programs, reported a total of 65, and the State Convention of Baptists in Indiana, with a goal of 14, began 16 new programs.

One of the smaller conventions, the Baptist Convention of Pennsylvania-South Jersey, recorded the best percentage of new Church Training programs with a total of 10 compared to its goal of three.

The Arizona Southern Baptist Convention matched its goal of 15 new programs.

Other state conventions which fell below their goals but still reported significant increases were the Alabama State Convention with 51 and the Baptist General Association of Virginia with 27.

20 Years And Counting

Southern Baptists' Sixth



By Phyllis A. Desbien

As in any democratic system, it began with an individual recommendation. It was given to a committee who brought it, researched and polished, to the people. The people said yes. And Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary became, at least in Southern Baptist minds and hearts, a reality.

Before 1957, there were five theological seminaries owned and supported by the Southern Baptist Convention. But with the '50's had come an increased demand for ministerial and theological training. Seminary enrollments were up all across the country. It was during the 1953 convention that Southern Baptists began to take a serious look at how well their organization was meeting its educational needs.

W. D. Hudgins, messenger from Mississippi, began a four-year educational review when he recommended "That a special committee be appointed by the convention to make a

study of our total program of theological, religious, and missionary education as it involves financial support from the Southern Baptist Convention."

The recommendation was adopted and a twelve member committee, designated "the Committee on Theological, Religious, and Missionary Education," began its work. For two years, they examined the educational system of the convention as it was structured.

When the convention met in Miami in 1955, the committee gave a lengthy report. Projecting future enrollments from the number of ministerial students in Southern Baptist colleges, and considering the trend to increasing enrollments, they recommended the study be continued. They requested that it be specifically aimed at the question of the need for another seminary to be added to the system.

During the next year, the committee investigated numerous suggestions and possibilities. Consideration was given, for example, of the Southern Baptist Convention undertaking joint

support of an existing seminary with another Baptist body. However, this idea along with many others, did not seem to fulfill the educational needs being recognized by the denomination.

When the committee made its recommendation to the 1956 convention, they were convinced that a new seminary, wholly owned and operated by the SBC, should be established. The people heartily agreed.

The question then was, "Where?" Atlanta, Memphis, Chicago, Denver, and Kansas City were among the top contenders for the school's location. The committee went back to work.

On May 29, 1957, the committee brought what was to be its final report to the people attending the annual convention.

They recommended that the new seminary should indeed be established, suggested organizational guidelines and proposed Kansas City as its location.

The vote was unanimous. Midwestern was founded.

Southern Baptists had their sixth seminary.

Southerland Retires As BBI President

James and Mabel Southerland retiring president of Baptist Bible Institute, Graceville, Florida, and his wife were honored at the recent Homecoming Day dinner by the students and alumni with a gift of a porcelain white horse. In accepting the gift, Southerland said:

"Let me tell you a little story about this symbol of the white horse. At one time I was registrar of New Orleans Seminary and taught a course in homiletics. I left the seminary to become pastor of the Avondale Church in Jacksonville, Florida. I had been there only a few months before the old BBI, located at Lakeland, invited me to become the president. I had been at Avondale only a short while and could not see how it would be in God's leadership to leave so rapidly, so I refused."

"The school at that time was not one of the Florida Baptist Convention institutions being supported through the Cooperative Program."

"Later on I moved from Avondale Church to First Church, Oxford, Mississippi. This is how Mabel and I got tied into Mississippi. We had a very happy, successful pastorate there. God blessed it. The executive secretary-treasurer of the Mississippi Baptist Convention, now deceased, Chester Quarles, and I were riding over north Mississippi representing various agencies of the Convention. I told him about BBI and about my deep concern for this type of theological education. He said, 'You know, it's strange. I heard just before I left home from the Chairman of the Selection Committee. Did you know that Baptist Bible Institute in Graceville is looking for a President?' I told him I did not know. I knew that Dr. Stainback was not at BBI as president, but I really thought the position had been filled. He said, 'How would you like to be president?' I said, 'I'd love it very much,

indeed, for I have felt very kindly toward the school through all of these years, but I wouldn't lift my little finger to get my name before the committee."

"Very little else was said. The first thing I knew I heard from the Selection Committee. And from that point things moved toward my becoming President. I had to give it serious attention as this was twice under different circumstances that my name was being considered seriously."

"So, I called Roland Q. Leavell and talked with him about it. After a lengthy discussion, I asked his advice and what he thought about this type of theological education program."

"He shot back an answer like greased lightning. He said, 'Jimmy,

two years ago I would have said don't touch it. But the whole picture of theological training has changed. It's a WHITE HORSE! Get on it and ride it!"

"And there's my White Horse! I got on it and have been riding it ever since, but I haven't been riding it alone. It takes a good wife to help make you successful."

"When I mentioned a possible move to Mabel, she said, 'Really, I don't want to go. I love Oxford and I love your being a pastor, and I love the people with whom I work, but whatever you feel God is leading you to do, I'm with you.'"

"Anyway, the family made the move and it was a very happy one. And now I can hardly get Mabel away."



Mabel and James Southerland accept the gift of a porcelain white horse.

Today's Youth

A Tribute To A Friend

By Don Nerren, Pastor
Macedonia Baptist Church,
Brookhaven

It has been said that you never truly appreciate a friend until he is gone. That may be true in some instances, but not in this case.

It began when I preached a trial sermon for the First Baptist Church of Sumrall, Mississippi. Following the message that morning I was asked to stand at the door to greet the people. I met many people that day. However, one person stood out above the rest. He was a big, 16-year-old young man. He was a perfect specimen of health with the physique of a husky football player. As he came out the door, he put his arm on my shoulder and said, "I'm John Ball and I like you. I hope you will come and be our pastor." If I live to be a hundred, I shall never forget that moment.

The next time I saw John Ball was when I was moving my books into the pastor's study. He was with his mother. They stopped to tell me that John had been in an automobile accident, but no one had been injured, and the cars were only slightly damaged. Once again this young man expressed to me his joy over my coming to be his pastor.

It is hard being a new pastor. You always wonder if the people are going to like you. Every new pastor especially wants the young people to like him. Almost every Sunday this husky young man would come out the door, put his arm on my shoulder, and say some word of encouragement.

Over the next five months I came to know John Ball quite well. I found him to be a kind and considerate young man. He was a gentleman and a product of a good Christian home. He loved his home and thought his parents hung the moon and the stars.

John was a real sportsman in every respect. He was a first team football player at the early age of 13. Each of his coaches spoke of the great potential he had as a football player. When John was not playing football or shooting basketball with his brother, he was learning to be an excellent pool player. His parents had given him a pool table

for Christmas. This preacher, who considered himself to be quite accomplished in the game, met his match many times at the hands of this young man.

It was evident that John had a deep love for music. Many young people think it is "square" to sing in church, but I noticed that John enjoyed each song service. Our home was across the street from the band hall. Almost every week a group of boys would meet there and have a "jam" session. As I was walking by one night I noticed that every boy had an instrument except John. I looked with interest as John, with drumsticks in hand, was drumming the top of the piano. I always enjoyed kidding John about the type of instrument he played.

I will never forget that fateful night at prayer meeting when I noticed that John did not look well. However, I felt better about him later on that night when he and a friend came by my house and spent some time talking. My wife awoke me the next morning with the news that John was in the intensive care unit in the Forest General Hospital. No one had told her exactly what the problem was. I dressed and left immediately for the hospital. I visited with John a few moments and he assured me that he was ready to "go home." The doctors could not tell us what the problem was except that his blood platelets were low. As we prayed, John steadily improved. He was moved to a private room on the fourth floor just across from the nurses' station.

At this time I was leaving with the high school seniors in our church for a trip to Florida. John was doing much better, even though he was still having to take platelets. I called back every day and was told that John was holding his own. We arrived home from the trip on Thursday, May 31. As soon as we had unpacked the car, I left for the hospital. Shortly after I arrived in his room, John went into a convulsion. Within just a few moments he was gone. God had given wings to another one of His children.

I will never forget John's funeral. The funeral home was packed, and

people had to stand on the outside. His beautiful blue casket adorned with gold flowers paid tribute to his high school colors. It was a very difficult funeral for me to preach, probably the most difficult in my ministry. You see, I had not only lost a young person from my church, but I had lost a real friend.

As I think back over the last short days of John's life, I know now that deep down he knew he would never leave the hospital alive. In fact, he confided to his dad that he did not believe he was going to get well. Yes, I shall always believe that God gave to John an insight to his destiny. And yet, he faced it unafraid, with total confidence that God knew what was best.

John's body is buried in a lovely spot in Hattiesburg, Mississippi, but the real John Ball is at home with his Heavenly Father. I am sure that if there is a Heavenly band, John is the head drummer and his songs are without blemish and in perfect tune. It is with great expectation that I look forward to seeing my friend again.

This is a tribute from a preacher to a friend. I know now the true meaning of the words written in God's Word, "Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of His saints."

Acteens Royalty

First, Ocean Springs

Queens
Lee Green
Sarah Newman
Susan Wyatt
Angie Witcher

Queens-With-Scepter
Allison Graham
Nan Hodges
Sharon Snead
Brenda Rivers
Laurie Grizzard
Betty Taylor

Queen Regent
Kim Thweatt

Queen-Regent-in-Service
Carole Wyatt

The Singers To Tour Southeast

A 9-day tour of the Southeastern United States by Blue Mountain College's popular musical group, The Singers, has been announced for May 8-16.

The trip will begin immediately after graduation exercises at the college May 8 with some 18 students expected to make the full tour. The singing group has engagements set for Memphis, Asheville, North Carolina, Charleston, South Carolina, Jacksonville and Ocala, Florida.

Mrs. Nancy Robertson and Ed Ludlow of the Blue Mountain College music department are coordinating the trip.



BSU Choir To Sing In Clinton

The University of Alabama BSU Choir will give a concert of sacred music at Morrison Heights Church, Clinton, May 9. There are 45 singers under the direction of Ron Wilson, minister of music at First Church, Tuscaloosa, Alabama. This is a part of their Spring 1977 Tour, which will take them to the state of Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas. The Director of Campus Ministries at the University of Alabama is Ruford Hodges. The concert begins at 7:30 p.m. The public is invited, according to Bill Barnes, the Morrison Heights music minister.



MBMC Student Night Selects "Best"

Each educational program at Mississippi Baptist Medical Center, Jackson, selected the man and woman they felt best typified the center's educational programs and goals, as part of their annual "Student Night" presentation. From left: Charlie Krout, Clinton, and Mrs. Elaine Proctor, of the School of Practical Nursing; Laura Griffith, Huntington, N.Y., and Curtis Grace, Meridian, of the School of Respiratory Therapy; Jerry Mobley, Jackson, and Mrs. Donna Barnes, Holly Springs, of the School of Medical Technology; Mrs. Teresa Hall, Bruce, and James Lambert, Burnsville in Tishomingo County, of the School of Radiology. Grace was selected "Mr. MBMC," and Mrs. Barnes was named "Mrs. MBMC." (MBMC photos by Mike Joiner)



Mrs. Richard Barnes (Donna) is the newly elected Mrs. Mississippi Baptist Medical Center.

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Baptists Sing For Air Guard Unit

Chapel Services at the 172nd Tactical Airlift Group, Mississippi Air Guard, were brightened on April 3 by three Baptists who sang hymns and popular religious songs. The musical group was comprised of (from left) Melinda Martin, Cecelia Renfro, and Carol Renfro, a William Carey student. Also pictured is the 172nd's Airlift Squadron Commander, Lt. Col. Wayne O. Burkes, pastor at Bolton and (far right) the Air Guard unit's Chaplain, Lt. Col. John C. Renfro, director of missions for Rankin Association. The 172nd is located at Thompson Field, Jackson.

Rhodesian Youths Accent 'Life' Amid Conflict

TRIANGLE, Rhodesia — Not far from an area of war and death, 75 Baptist young people came aside here to talk about life.

In a weekend retreat at the Runyaro Baptist Church, young people from Triangle, Hippo Valley Estates and the town of Chiredzi met for a program centered around the theme "The Church Is Alive." Then they went out to witness to people of the neighboring homes and villages.

The weekend retreat brought "quite a number" of decisions for Christ, reported Jean (Mrs. Gene D.) Phillips, Southern Baptist missionary who participated in the retreat program.

"Located in the southeastern section of Rhodesia where the world's attention has been drawn to war and death," it was encouraging to see 75 young people putting the emphasis on life," said Mrs. Phillips.

Concert At MC

The Mississippi College 32-voice Cantata Choir will present a free concert of sacred and secular music at 8:15 p.m. May 5, in Aven fine arts building.

The concert, featuring the great choral music of the last four centuries, will close with a group of spirituals. The public is invited.

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John Branum, son of Mr. and Mrs. Bob Branum of 6240 Pear Orchard Road, Jackson, has received the God and Country Award at Broadmoor Church. Left to right: Scoutmaster Billy Lister, John, and David R. Grant, pastor, who presented the award. Grandparents of the recipient are Mrs. J. E. Branum of Greenwood, and Mr. and Mrs. Ross Barnett, Jackson.

Names In The News

Parkway Church, Pascagoula, has called Charles Malone as music and youth director. He goes from Temple Church, Jackson. He is married to the former Susanne Noyes of Watertown, N. Y. They have three boys.

Anne McWilliams, editorial associate, the Baptist Record, and writer of the column, "Faces and Places," and Wilda Fancher, writer of the column, "Beyond the Ironing Board," both were recipients of Inky awards presented at an April 22 banquet at Mississippi University for Women. The annual banquet is sponsored by the campus newspaper, "The Spectator." First place winners in the Mississippi Press Women's annual communications contest are among the recipients of the Inkys. Mrs. McWilliams' personal column won a first place award and Mrs. Fancher's book, I Have Heard the Rainbow, won first place recognition.

Jerry W. Stevens, pastor of Calvary Church, Columbus, was elected president of Blue Mountain Alumni at the annual Min to ri al Alumni Day on April 1. Stevens holds a BA from Blue Mountain College and Master of Divinity from New Orleans Seminary.

White Oak Church recently ordained three men as deacons: Jim Overby, Wayne Miley, and Dean Dukes. Robert Perry, pastor of First Church, Raleigh, preached the ordination message. W. G. Dowdy is the pastor.

Connie G. Wilkerson was ordained recently as a deacon of First Church, Benndale, W. A. McWilliams, pastor.

Larry Summers is the new minister of music and youth at First Church, Canton. Fred E. Robertson is the pastor.



Mr. and Mrs. Jonathan Williams of Leakesville were honored by Antioch Church, Greene County, on April 17. A reception was given the couple, who celebrated their 56th wedding anniversary. Kenneth Goff, pastor, and his wife Rebecca presented Mrs. Williams with a corsage and Mr. Williams with a carnation. Many other gifts were given to them at the reception. Williams is 87 and has been a member of Antioch for 69 years. Mrs. Williams is 71 and has been a member for 52 years. They have three sons and one daughter.

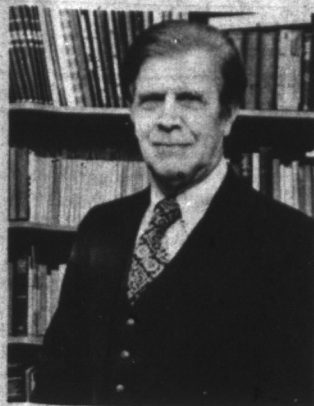
Broadman Releases N. T. Study Guide By MC Prof

William W. Stevens believes strongly in the printed word. "I feel that I can reach more people through my writing than from the pulpit or in a classroom," said Stevens, chairman of the division of religion at Mississippi College and author of four books on the Christian faith, including A Guide for New Testament Study released by Broadman Press in April.

Stevens' first book, That Ye May Believe, was published in 1959, followed by Doctrines of the Christian Religion in 1967 and A Guide for Old Testament Study in 1974. His latest book is a sequel to the Old Testament study guide.

Dr. Stevens' first two books were written for graduate and seminary level study. But the New and Old Testament study guides carry a different emphasis.

"I have written the study guides so that the average lay person can understand the ideas communicated," said Dr. Stevens. "Biblical terms are well defined and the books assume no former knowledge of the Bible." Dr. Stevens draws upon numerous



research sources, 35 years of experience as a pastor and teacher, and personal trips to the Holy Land for the material in his books.

Because of his research and knowledge of the Bible, Dr. Stevens has been contracted by two travel agencies this year to act as an evening lecture guide for tours of the Holy Land.

Byhalia Names Deacon Emeritus

In a special service held April 17 Byhalia honored J. H. Rochester and conferred on him the title deacon emeritus. Rochester was 85 on February 7 (born in 1892 in Union County, Mississippi) and has served as a deacon since his ordination by the Highland Heights Church, Memphis, in 1919.

"Pappaw" Rochester was baptized into the membership of the Old Oak Grove Church, Union County, on the second Sunday of September, 1906. After his marriage in 1912 and a short career as school teacher and farmer, moved to Memphis. In 1919 Highland Heights ordained him as a deacon, making him a third-generation deacon.

Both his grandfather and his father were deacons. The Rochesters' two sons, Bill and Crockett, are also ordained deacons, like their father, great-grandfather, and grandfather.

In 1957, he retired from the postal service in Memphis and moved back to Mississippi, settling in Byhalia. The minutes of the Marshall Association record that Rochester was moderator six years but they do not record the miles he traveled while moderator, the number of times he supplied pulpits, nor the great service rendered to the smaller churches during his terms as moderator.

Chandice Johnson is the Byhalia pastor.

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BR-1

Thursday, May 5, 1977

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 7

Jerusalem, Israel — Following a presentation of Mendelssohn's "Elijah" in a church here recently, members of the Singers of Praise choir were described by a leading music critic as "committed performers." The group is conducted by Southern Baptist representative Martha Murphey. This was a commendable effort by the Baptist community in Israel," wrote Yohanan Boehm in the English-language newspaper Jerusalem Post.

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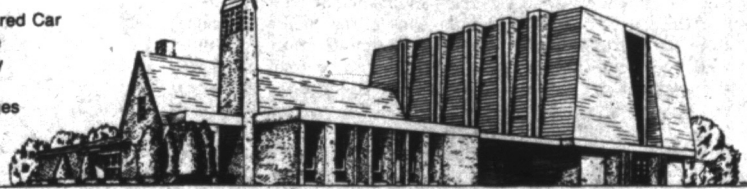
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Highland Dedicates Pastorium

A dedication service was held April 17 for the new pastorium of Highland Church, Vicksburg. After dedication service was held at 2, an open house followed until 4:30. Guy Crawford, above, Chairman of the Building and Grounds Committee, presents a key to the house to the pastor, James E. Messer. Left to right: Marvin Miller, Chairman of Finance Committee; Mrs. Carolyn Miller and James Hall, members of Building and Grounds Committee; Mrs. Janet Gatt who represented Ramsey Real Estate; the pastor; Crawford; David Grimsley, minister of music and youth; Pete Burkes, Finance Committee member; Jackie Bourn, Chairman of Trustees; and Burt Trimble, treasurer.

71 Year Marriage Wins "Longest Married" Title

Mr. and Mrs. J. N. Buckley of Rt. 2, Hattiesburg, together for 71 years, was the longest - married couple responding to a project, Long Lasting Marriages, sponsored by Garland McInnis of Hattiesburg. Both are 90 years old.

Other couples, and the years they have been married are Mr. and Mrs. Henry Melvin Gipson, Poplarville, married 70 years; Mr. and Mrs. Jack Oden, Hattiesburg, married 68 years; Mr. and Mrs. Henry J. Craft of Hattiesburg, married 66 years; Mr. and Mrs. Robert E. Carter, Sr. of Hattiesburg, married 66 years.

Mr. and Mrs. J. B. Thompson of Hattiesburg, married 65 years; Mr. and Mrs. Charles H. Boozer of Petal, married 62 years; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Deen of Bassfield, married 62 years; Mr. and Mrs. John Emmett Smith of Hattiesburg, married 62 years; Mr. and Mrs. Ollie Williams of Hattiesburg, married 61 years; Mr. and Mrs. A. K. Killingsworth, married 57 years; Mr. and Mrs. John M. King of Hattiesburg, married 57 years.

Mr. and Mrs. David Williams of Rt. 1, Lumberton, married 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. G. T. Purvis of Purvis, married 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. Otho Davis of Lumberton, married 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. E. L. Nester Sr., married 50 years; Mr. and Mrs. Robert B. Her-ring of Petal, married 56 years; Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Clark of McLain, 59

years; Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Fortenberry, of Hattiesburg, married 60 years; and Mr. and Mrs. Ben D. Hawkins of Forest, married 71 years.

McInnis presented the couples with an anniversary certificate.

SCRAPBOOK



Mother's Day — Korea

SOUTH KOREA — A Korean mother solves the baby-sitting problem by carrying her child on her back as she tends her fields. (RNS Photo)

Enduring Tenderness

There is an enduring tenderness in the love of a mother to a child that transcends all other affections of the heart! It is neither to be chilled by selfishness, nor daunted by danger, nor weakened by worthlessness, nor stifled by ingratitude. She will sacrifice every comfort to his convenience; she will surrender pleasures to his enjoyment; she will glory in his fame, and exult in his prosperity — and if misfortune overtake him he will be dearer to her from misfortune; and if disgrace settle upon his name she will still love and cherish him in spite of his disgrace; and if all the world beside cast him off she will be all the world to him — Washington Irving.

The Glory Of Woman

When Eve was brought unto Adam, he became filled with the Holy Spirit, and gave her the most sanctified, the most glorious of appellations. He called her Eva, that is to say, the Mother of All. He did not style her wife, but simply mother, — mother of all living creatures. In this consists the glory and the most precious ornament of woman. — Martin Luther

Revival Dates

West Jackson Church, Jackson: May 8-15; services Mon.-Fri., 7:30 p.m.; Sunday services 11 a.m. and 7 p.m.; Paul Wilson, Hanging Moss Church, Jackson, evangelist; Mike Smith, West Jackson Church, music director; Cheryl Haynes, organist; Cheryl Crawford, pianist; Dewitt Mitchell, pastor. Also visiting Sunday, May 15 will be Sharon Wilson, ventriloquist, and Ricky. High attendance goal in Sunday School 330, May 15.

Griffith Memorial, Jackson: May 1-6; Howard Benton, Pastor of Eastside, Pearl, evangelist; J. B. Betts, music evangelist from Southaven with daughter Marsha, guest musicians; weekday services 7 a.m. and 7:30 p.m.; coffee and donuts and chocolate served at 6:30 a.m. prior to morning services; Wilson Winstead, pastor.

First Church, Helena (Jackson County): May 8-13, C. H. Stone, Belle

Fontaine Church, evangelist; Wayne Parker, music evangelist; Walton Douglas, pastor.

Revival Results

During the Simpson County associationwide E. J. Daniels Crusade for Christ, held April 17-24, there were 220 professions of faith. Attendance was good in spite of heavy rains during the week.

Decisions totaled 5000. In addition to the professions of faith, there were 2,000 who promised to go the "second mile" in their church and 1750 who pledged to begin tithing. There were 800 decisions "to renew marriage vows"; 422 young people who dedicated themselves anew "to renounce sins and live pure lives"; 21 dedicating themselves to full-time Christian service; 105 in "assurance of salvation"; and 288 rededications.

Laymen To Lead Special Weekend At Center Ridge

Center Ridge Church, Yazoo County, plans to have a Lay Renewal Weekend May 13, 14, and 15.

A group of men and women will be coming from other churches at their own expense to share with Center Ridge members what Christ has meant to their lives.

"They are not professionals, neither are they perfect Christians, just ordinary people who have been searching for spiritual reality and have begun to find an answer and are willing to share it with others," stated Mrs. Doyle Lammons of Center Ridge.

"Lay Renewal Weekend focuses on deep, full commitment of self to Christ," she continued. "In other words, it is a weekend experience of renewal for the local church."

There will be a nursery provided.

Adkins Resigns Pastorate To Enter Evangelism

S. A. "Sonny" Adkins has resigned Rocky Creek Church of Lucedale to enter evangelism. He and his family will make their home in Newhebron.

Adkins is a native of Prentiss and a graduate of William Carey College and New Orleans Seminary. He is married to the former Irby Jean Bourn of Oakvale and they have two sons, Scott, 9, and Eric, 6. He has served 16 years in the pastorate in Mississippi and Alabama.

During his three and one-half years ministry at Rocky Creek, Mississippi's largest rural church, considerable progress has been made. The building debt has been reduced from \$73,000 to \$10,000; a new staff house for the minister of music was built and paid for; a new church bus was purchased; the old auditorium was converted into educational space; a church kindergarten begun; church offices were remodeled; and a Sunday School attendance record was established for a rural church in Mississippi, of 521 in April of 1976.

His new address is PO BOX 155, Newhebron, Miss. 39140 (phone 601-694-2406).

Former Biloxi Pastor Dies

Lewie Harrison Miller, 87, a former pastor of First Church, Biloxi, died in Greenville, S. C., on April 1. Funeral services were held April 2 at Pendleton Street Baptist Church, Greenville.

Miller was pastor at Biloxi from 1929 to 1931. Born in Highlands, N. C., he was a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, Chicago.

He was an evangelist for the Home Mission Board from 1927 to 1929. For 12 years he was pastor of Sans Souci Church, Greenville, S. C. and for 20 years he was pastor of Oakhurst Church, Decatur, Ga. After retirement in 1953 he was active in evangelism and interim pastorates for 20 more years.

Survivors include his wife, Mrs. Gertrude Farquhar Miller; a daughter, Mrs. Victor Greene of Newnan, Ga.; three sons, Lewie H. Miller, Jr., Executive director of the National Bible Museum, Gatlinburg, Tn., George Miller of Greenville, and Paul Henderson Miller, missionary to Nigeria; and ten grandchildren.

Devotional

How Well Do You Know Jesus?

By W. Everette Martin, Pastor, Ridgeland Church

In the fourth chapter of the gospel of John we find a very interesting revelation of Jesus to the woman of Samaria.

Jesus said, "I must needs go through Samaria" (John 4:4). As He came to the well in Sychar, He was weary with His journey, and He sat down on the well. And it was about the sixth hour (twelve o'clock).

He sent the disciples away to purchase some food, while He fulfilled the "must" of His journey.

A woman of Samaria came at midday to get her water so she would not have to be made fun of by others who would come in the evening.

As she got her water, Jesus asked her for a drink.

Now I want you to note the progressive revelation of Jesus to this woman.

1. She recognized Him to be a Jewish stranger (John 4:9). Yes, she immediately recognized that He was a Jew. She was astonished that He would ask her, a woman of Samaria, for a drink, for the Jews have no dealings with the Samaritans.

Jesus said, "If you knew who it was that asked of thee a drink, thou wouldest have asked of Him, and He would have given thee living water" (John 4:10).

2. She recognized Him to be a gentleman. The woman saith unto Him, "Sir, thou has nothing to draw with —" (John 4:11).

This woman no doubt did not know many men who could be classified as gentlemen. Jesus had already revealed to her that He was one. She again addressed him Sir in the 15th verse.

As Jesus continued to talk with her she had a further revelation of His person.

3. She recognized Him to be a prophet. "The woman saith unto Him, 'Sir, I perceive that thou art a prophet' (John 4:19).

In the 16th chapter of the gospel of Matthew, we heard Jesus ask His disciples, "Whom do men say that I, the Son of Man, am?" (Matt. 16:13). "And they said, some say that thou art John the Baptist; some, Elias; and others, Jeremias, or one of the prophets" (Matt. 16:14).

This was not good enough. He asked, "Whom say ye that I am? And Simon Peter answered and said, Thou art the Christ, the Son of the living God" (Matt. 16:15-16).

Now I want you to notice in John, chapter 4, what the woman shouted, "Come, see a man, which told me all things that ever I did: is not this the Christ?" (John 4:29).

Then look to John 4:42, "And said unto the woman, now we believe, not because of thy saying: for we have heard Him ourselves, and know that this is indeed the Christ, the Saviour of the world."

4. He was revealed to be the Christ, the anointed one of God. We do not come to know Jesus as the Christ apart from divine revelation. Jesus said to Peter when he said, "Thou art the Christ," "Flesh and blood hath not revealed it unto thee, but my Father which is in Heaven" (Matt. 16:17).

Yes, Jesus is far more than some credit Him to be. He is not just a good person, a great prophet, even a "super star." He did not come to be praised as a Super Human. He came "to seek and to save that which was lost" (Luke 19:10). He came to put away sin by the sacrifice of Himself.

The Holy Spirit reveals who Jesus is and no other. The Holy Spirit always brags on Jesus.

Do you really know who He is???

Until you come to know Him by divine revelation, you cannot be saved and you will not serve in an acceptable manner.

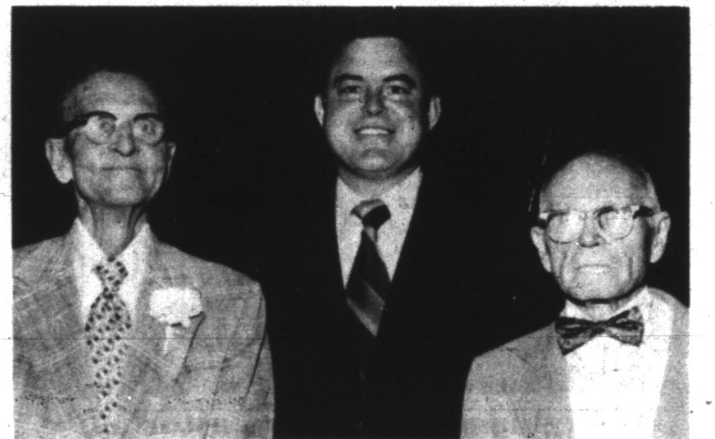
Anchor Gifts Increase By 29%

Anchor Church, Lafayette Association, gave a total of \$300 to the Annie Armstrong Easter Offering for Home Missions. This was \$50 over their goal and an increase of 29% over the giving of a year ago.

Anchor was also host for the association WMU spring meeting on April

19. The speaker for the evening was Mrs. John Vandercook of New Orleans. She shared the work of her family in missions in the port area of New Orleans.

Jimmy Harrington is pastor at Anchor.



Oakland Honors "Keenagers"

Oakland Church, Corinth, observed "Golden Age Day" in which they honored their senior citizens. Clarence Palmer, right, read the scripture and Clark Rakestraw, left, preached. These two men represented one hundred years of the gospel ministry. Tommy Vinson, pastor of Oakland, center, came to Christ under Rakestraw's ministry. The "Keenagers" were honored with a meal after the service.

Sunday School Lesson: Life and Work For May 8

Qualifying As A Church Leader

By Bill Duncan, First, Long Beach
I Timothy 3:1-15

There is no substitute for dynamic, aggressive, positive, inspiring leadership! Almost without exception, the lack of success means the lack of effective leadership. Successful leadership is thinking ahead, planning for the future, exhausting all possibilities, envisioning problems and dreaming up solutions to them, and then communicating the possibilities and the problem solving ideas to the decision makers.

Leadership is a great responsibility that cannot be irresponsibly placed in the hands of people who do not put the Lord and His church first in their lives. Many members of the church consider the church in a third or fourth position of priority in their lives. But the local pastor and deacons must place the Lord and His church foremost in their lives.

God has permitted the success of the Kingdom's work to be largely dependent upon the relationship which a Christian congregation sustains to her pastor and with the ability with which a pastor discharges his duties toward his congregation. I do not know of many more important subjects for us to study today than the specific teaching of the Bible concerning the pastor's responsibility to his congregation and, in turn, the congregation's responsibility to the pastor.

The Bible passage from I Timothy gives us two kinds of church officers: pastor and deacon. The passage does not give us the duties but places the emphasis upon the qualifications. The words of the Lord through Paul have become the orders to His church concerning the kind of leaders they are to choose and install.

Qualifications For a Pastor

The title bishop has grown to describe a person in position of an organizational structure, as compared to the simple congregational form of church government. The word bishop in KJV according to its earliest meaning meant overseer or guardian of the souls — one who watches over their welfare. Baptist have preferred to designate those who are called to lead the local congregation as pastor.

The position of pastor is not an easy task but a most rewarding experience. The hardships of the pastor represent sacrifice, struggle and being set apart. His call from God and the challenge of

his task must be the only lures into the ministry. A person does not have "to fight the call" to experience a genuine call from God. But he does need to be sure of his motivation.

Paul lays heavy emphasis upon a disciplined life for the pastor. He is counseled to be temperate in food, drink and practice of legitimate forms of pleasure. The pastor must have a good reputation that will inspire respect, confidence and affection. He must be mature enough to command the respect of outsiders.

Strong emphasis is placed upon the necessity for a pastor to be a teacher so that he can keep his congregation well informed and grounded in the faith.

The pastor must be free from an obsession for getting money. If money becomes the chief motive behind a pastor's ministry, he manifests that he is not truly trusting in the God whom he calls upon others to trust to supply all his needs.

Paul lays heavy qualifications upon the pastor and his family. The pastor was to have only one wife. The passage encourages the pastor to engage in Christian marriage. The home of the pastor is to be a good example to his church members. The right management of the family gives evidence of leadership. The pastor's home should be open for hospitality.

As one looks at the qualifications, he sees that they are primarily those of moral conduct and the chief demand is self-control. Everyone realizes that these qualifications are ideal, a goal for each pastor to seek to obtain. The congregation needs to be forgiving and understanding. The goal is ever before us and the church.

Qualifications For Deacons
Paul held no double-standard for pastors and deacons when he said, "likewise must the deacons." The position of the deacon is one of assistance to the pastor. If they are to be engaged in the ministry, then they need to have similar qualifications.

A deacon must have the law of heaven written upon his heart. His conscience must bear record that his Christian convictions and his conduct agree.

Before a deacon is considered for election his character must be thoroughly examined. He must be "blameless" or above reproach, in a sense free from faults as described in the Bible passage. Deacons must be serious, earnest and dignified. The deacon's "example must not ensnare

into the deadly clutches of alcohol men for whom Christ died." In our day the deacon must not use alcohol in any form. The better the man who drinks, the stronger is his influence on others to drink.

The deacon must follow the same high pattern of family life as the pastor. The deacon's wife is to be equal in moral conduct and self-control qualities. She is of great help to the ministry.

Space will not allow us to examine every detail of the qualifications of the

two Biblical offices of the church. Churches should choose as leaders people who are spiritually mature. For every believer a genuine conversion experience is basic. From the beginning — conversion — it takes time for Christians to grow, mature and mellow. When persons are chosen for leadership that are not qualified, the church is courting disaster. The study of this passage should encourage the churches to choose leaders who are exemplifying the fundamental qualities of the Christian Life.

International For May 8

By Wm. Fallis
James 1:19 to 2:26

The writer of the book of James describes himself only as "a servant of God and of the Lord Jesus Christ." So,

he must have been well-known in Christian circles. The most prominent James in the Jerusalem church was the brother of Jesus (Mark 6:3; Acts 12:17; 15:13). Most people accept him as the writer,

based on a very old tradition. Certainly, the letter reveals familiarity with Jewish writings and with Jesus' teachings. Because James was martyred in A.D. 62 and because the book does not deal with some matters that came up between A.D. 50 and 60, many scholars feel it was written by A.D. 49. Thus, it may be the earliest New Testament book, revealing early church problems and Christ's teachings.

The Lesson Explained

Consistency In Living
Our background Scripture passage begins with 1:19 and from that verse focuses on the primary purpose of the book: calling on Jewish Christians to let their lives be consistent with their professed faith in Christ. In 1:22 James urged them to be "doers of the

word, and not hearers only." It was not enough to enjoy hearing the "old, old story" again and again; the good news from God in Christ called for clear changes in life's pattern. In 1:27 he described pure religion: "To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction, and to keep himself unstained from the world." True Christianity is more than mystical brooding or thinking compassionately; it requires some doing. In 2:8 he called on them to "fulfill the royal law according to the scripture, Thou shalt love thy neighbor as thyself." Partiality in the church is a sin.

Futility Of Faith Without Works

(2:14-17)
Some people have felt that verses 14-26 show James opposed to Paul. In preaching the gospel to Gentiles, Paul declared that salvation came by faith on the basis of God's grace rather than by works — that is, ritual and deeds done to deserve salvation. But James is talking here about another kind of "works," the kind that believers do because they have been saved. So, there is no conflict between Paul and James on this issue.

Verse 14 raises the key question: "What good is it for a man to say, 'I have faith,' if his actions do not prove it? Can that faith save him?" (TEV). Then James provides a vivid illustration. Saying comforting but hypocritical words cannot warm a shivering brother or feed a hungry sister. The kind of faith that seems to sympathize,

that makes bright and pious remarks about helping the ever-present poor, that never really gives a coat or a casserole, that kind of faith is dead.

Evidence Of Faith By Works

(2:18-26)
Then James takes another step in his argument. Not only is a professed faith dead when it does not act; real faith proves its reality by its actions. They cannot be separated. Demons can do it; they can believe, for instance, that God is one and it will not affect their conduct. But Christians cannot separate them. Faith and works must go together because the latter proves the former.

James then recalled the case of Abraham for his Jewish Christian readers. That great pioneer of faith demonstrated his faith by his works. Genesis 15:6 says: "He believed in the Lord, and he counted it to him for righteousness." But when he took Isaac to the mountain and raised the dagger to sacrifice him, it was what he did that revealed the reality of his faith. He could have claimed to have faith all his life; but when he acted on it, his deeds represented the tangible thrust of his faith into life. When Abraham took the risks which his faith in God called for, his faith was made perfect. So, James says that the profession of faith must be coupled with a faithful life. He saw the same principle at work in Rahab's helping the Hebrew spies in Jericho.

Off The Record

Mechanic to owner of old, broken-down car: "Let me put it this way — if your car were a horse, it would have to be shot."

Two middle-aged couples on a vacation trip decided to fight inflationary travel prices by sharing each night a room with two double beds.

"Wasn't modesty a problem?" a neighbor asked after the four came home.

"Not at all," said one of the travelers. "At bedtime we just took off our bifocals." — Leo Aikman.

A kind-hearted farmer came upon a young boy who had just lost a load of hay along the side of the road, and suggested that the boy come home with him and have dinner before reloading the wagon. The boy said he didn't think his father would like that, but the farmer persisted, and finally the boy agreed. After eating dinner and relaxing a bit, the farmer drove the boy back to the scene of the accident, and started to help him put the hay back on the wagon.

"By the way," the farmer said. "You're awfully young to be pulling this hay yourself. Where's your dad?" "He's under this hay," the boy replied.